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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

As was to be expected, now that the war is fairly assuming a grand and terrific character, everything relating to it bears away the palm in interest from other subjects. We are not likely to have Reform this year, and the public hardly asks "why." The condition of India exhibits important points for remark—they are left to the Indian department. Neutrality and the Navy, these are the only subjects of oratory. As for home politics, in the strict sense, they are scarcely heard of. Already it is evident that the Cabinet has been formed by turning Radicals into Whigs, and not Whigs into Radicals. Mr. Lowe sneers at change in the streets of a pocket borough, and Mr. Gibson echoes the moderate professions of elderly peers. The genuine Radical of decided convictions—Mr. Bright—is left out altogether. In fact, politics at home are virtually shelved, and all eyes turned to the South or the Rhine.

It is, indeed, better that this should be so than that we should pooh-pooh all the possibilities latent in the European situation. But at best it is a melancholy state of things. Social reforms, which can alone permanently preserve our institutions, and the want of which has generally been the main cause of the ruin of States, is out of the question in such a chaotic condition as that of to-day. War, which the world fancied it was getting done with, rages as violently and brutally as ever; and philosophy may well busy itself with the phenomenon. Hitherto we have had but shallow handlings of the problem from our public teachers. The "ambition" of A. or B. is no doubt one item among the causes of any war. But why should A. or B. find the world so entirely convenient a place for carrying the ambition out? Our very civilisation smooths the way for him—makes his passage over the Alps, say, a holiday expedition compared with Hannibal's—accumulates unparalleled masses for him to handle, and involves a more terrible extent and degree of human suffering in battle than that of simpler times.

Nor are occasions and pretexts wanting nowadays for fighting—rather, may we say, that they are likely to abound as time jogs on. In an age which is fundamentally revolutionary, every arrangement is liable to attack and sure of enemies, and so long as any Power can gratify its tastes or pride by making itself the agent in the business, so long Europe may be sure of war at regular intervals. That there is any magic in the mechanical arts to charm away human passions and instincts is the dream of materialists and the poetry of bagmen. Railways and telegraphs are, indeed, highly convenient things for fighting Emperors, who enjoy an amount of physical comfort during a campaign now which was never at the command of Charlemagne, or even of the Plantagenets in later days.

From a historical point of view the present war is very interesting. It shows us what the French Revolution has really come to mean. France—from its centralisation, its national spirit, and unity—was always formidable; but, by making a clean sweep of everything that could hamper the central power, and by binding up the masses with it, the Revolution made France more formidable than ever. The individual may be less, but the State is more, in that country than ever; while the absence of all political action at home just impels the whole energy of the people to fling itself into foreign matters. The Yankees,

likeness to other fields of the campaign—was a hard-won triumph no doubt, but certainly a triumph. Large deductions must be made from every French statement, unquestionably; yet some facts speak for themselves, and, when the Austrians withdraw, they admit that their attack has failed. Why should every battle have a result so similar? The individual Austrian is brave, and bodies of Austrians have certainly (as in the case of the wings at Solferino) beaten bodies of Sardinians and French. The system of the French army must have some advantages which would explain this practical superiority, nor

does it matter *what*, so long as it exists. It cannot be discipline only, for the Austrian training is elaborate. It would seem, indeed, that the French have at once the advantages of resolution and of despotism—the individual development bred by one, and the combined action dictated and taught by the other.

It is a bad look-out for the liberties of Europe if France is to be allowed to bring these qualities to bear on the general putting to rights of European matters. But, though this teaches Europe a lesson in the way of preparation, it also teaches her one in the way of reform. France may be in the wrong, and yet her enemies not be in the right. Austria is now making a splendid defence, but every political sin she has ever committed is hampering her in the task. It may not be fair of Napoleon to threaten her with Kossuth; but, had her Hungarian policy been wiser, the threat would not have been so alarming, while, had her Italian policy been more generous, Napoleon would not have found it so easy to get up the war at all. But if England, as we suspect, is not unwilling to see her punished, she is far from wishing to see her ruined. Not one Englishman in a thousand approves of Kossuth's present course, however they may regret the Hungarian constitution, which is a different side of the affair. And, when it comes to a question of terms between the belligerents, there will be the strictest determination on this side of the Channel to do justice between them,



THE RIGHT HON. SIDNEY HERBERT, THE NEW SECRETARY OF STATE FOR WAR.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY MR. MAYALL.)

no doubt, are warlike; but their institutions do not fit the Executive for great wars. The French are warlike, and have the very Executive for the purpose. Some eight months ago who expected war in Europe? Nobody. Yet, yesterday week, as great and bloody a battle as the old Napoleon could have wished for was fought in one of the pleasantest and best cultivated parts of Christendom. Had the Emperor turned his attention in any other quarter, would his caution, promptitude, decision, have been less?

It is, no doubt, very interesting to discuss particular battles and their probable results; but we suspect that, in the long run, the general bearings of France, her condition, and her policy, will be found the most interesting theme. Solferino bears a family

and to discourage any substitution of French for Austrian predominance in Italy. France, in fact, is the only Power of whose rivalry we have any great need to beware in this country; and it must be admitted by her admirers that she has taken care to impress the fact upon us, in various ways, of late years.

On the whole, the speeches of Ministers read "neutral" enough—we allude especially to the election speeches—for the present taste of the country. Any over-active Gallican sympathies would soon produce a storm, not only of anger, but of contempt. Everybody wishes to see the country in possession of a tolerably stable Administration in such times, and feels that we shall be all the safer for one. What, then, shall an Administration do to be stable? We answer: keep clear of all

combinations tending to drag us into local wars, while preparing sufficiently to meet all possible combinations against us; and then bring your energy to bear on such adjustment of internal matters of agitation as shall leave the country heart-whole in case of an hour of trial. It must always be remembered that, when such hour comes, our foreign position and internal position will mutually depend upon each other. An enemy that struck successfully at our national honour would by so doing also sound the knell of our institutions.

THE RIGHT HON. SIDNEY HERBERT, M.P.

The Right Honourable Sidney Herbert, M.P. for South Wiltshire, and now Secretary for War, was born at Richmond in 1810, and is therefore forty-nine years old. He is the son of the eleventh Earl of Pembroke by his second wife, who was the daughter of Count Woronzow, a Russian nobleman. Mr. Sidney Herbert married, in 1846, Elizabeth, the daughter of Major-General Ashe à Court, niece of Lord Heytesbury. The right honourable gentleman was educated at Harrow School, and Oriel College, Oxon, where he was fourth in classics in 1831. He was Secretary to the Admiralty from 1841 till February, 1845, in Sir Robert Peel's Administration; was Secretary at War from the latter date till July, 1846; and again from December, 1852, until 1855, in the Aberdeen Government, when the office was abolished. He then became Secretary for the Colonies; but this office he held but a few weeks, as the Aberdeen Ministry soon after his appointment fell to pieces. Since then Mr. Sidney Herbert has held no public office, but gave his support generally to Lord Palmerston's Government. He voted, however, against the noble Lord on the question of the Chinese war. It was in 1832 that he first came into Parliament for South Wiltshire, and he has sat for that division ever since. But, though Mr. Sidney Herbert has been out of office since 1855, he has not been inactive, for he was a prominent member of the Crimean Fund Committee, contributed largely to its funds, and aided it still more by his untiring energy; and we may say that Mr. Herbert's activity and benevolence on this occasion were not exceptional, for, though he is not what is called a platform man, he is ever ready with his purse to promote practical schemes for the benefit of his fellow-creatures.

Mr. Sidney Herbert is one of the finest-looking men in the House of Commons. He is about six feet high, uncommonly well made, graceful, and manly, and has a face that at once commands attention as you pass him. There are no strong indications of intellectual power; he has not what would be called a remarkable head—no overarching brow with deep-set eyes—but a broad, handsome face, lighted up by large dark eyes, topped by an average development of forehead. The likeness here presented is uncommonly good, and will bear out what we have said.

Mr. Sidney Herbert as a speaker is far superior to the average of the speakers in the House of Commons. He is not a first-class orator; indeed, we should hardly call him an orator; but he is fluent in language, happy in his illustrations, has his facts all in order and well in hand, has a good voice, is graceful and forcible in his action, and in a great debate always succeeds in making a telling and business-like speech. The right honourable gentleman was in his early career considered to be a Conservative and a Protectionist; but he was a disciple of Sir Robert Peel, very early saw the soundness of that great statesman's fiscal policy, became a convert to the doctrine of free trade, and in 1846 voted for the abolition of protective duties. Since then the right honourable gentleman has been much more of a Liberal than a Conservative; and there is nothing surprising in the fact that he has joined a Liberal Government.

ARRIVAL OF MR. COBDEN.

MR. COBDEN arrived at Liverpool on Wednesday from America. Letters from Lord Palmerston and Lord John Russell were handed to him on deck, and he received a warm reception by those who had assembled to greet him on landing. A deputation headed by Mr. W. Brown, presented him with an address which spoke approvingly of his entering the Cabinet. Mr. Cobden, in his reply, observed that an answer to the letter of Lord Palmerston, which was in his pocket, would be his first duty. He added that that answer would be founded upon what he believed to be for the public interest. An address was also presented to Mr. Cobden by the Liverpool Financial Reformers.

THE GRAND DUKE CONSTANTINE.—On the Asiatic shores of the Bosphorus is a romantic valley known as Gueuk-Sou, or the Celestial Waters. Here, embowered amidst gigantic plane-trees, is a kiosque or summerhouse belonging to the Sultan. It was in this secluded and lovely spot that Abdul Medjid Khan, Chief of the Faithful, entertained at his own table the Grand Duchess. Not only did he depart from the law which forbids the successor of Othman to admit any guest to his table, but he still further shocked Mussulman prejudices by in this instance setting aside the edicts of the Prophet in favour of a lady and a glaour. It was on the morning of the 11th ult. that this memorable circumstance took place. It was a déjeuner d'hôte, at which the Grand Duchess, the Sultan, and the Grand Duke alone were present. About midday the three sat down to table, and they did not quit the kiosque till sunset. It must not be forgotten that it was at the valley of Unkiar-Skelessi, a little higher up the Bosphorus, that a treaty was entered into between Turkey and Russia many years ago, and it is but natural that rumour should be now afloat of a secret treaty of no less import having been concluded between the Sultan and his Imperial guests in the valley of the Gueuk-Sou. On the evening of the same day the Sultan's private operatic company performed at the Imperial Theatre of Dolma-Baghitché. Seated beside the Sultan in his box were the Grand Duchess and her husband. In the other boxes were foreign diplomats and Turkish Ministers, but Sir Henry Bulwer, the Ambassador of England, was not present.

THE FRENCH AND TURKEY.—A correspondent says:—"On the 12th of May Lord Cowley informed the Earl of Malmesbury that the French Government 'was most anxious that no cause of umbrage should be given to her Majesty's Government on any question regarding Turkey,' but the news recently received from the coast of Albania is not in keeping with the assurances which were given by Count Walewski to her Majesty's Ambassador. A few days ago two French frigates cast anchor at Antivara, or rather at Valle di Scroce, the port of Antivara, and sent several chests on shore. Two of the chests, which were opened, contained different kinds of gold and silver coin, and the others, from their form, were supposed to be filled with weapons. The commanders of the French frigates informed the Turkish authorities that it was their intention to establish a dépôt in the vicinity of Antivara, and further stated that twenty other French vessels of war might be expected. The Porte has entered a protest against the occupation of its territory by the French; but I do not yet know whether her Majesty's Government has thought fit to remind Count Walewski of his conversation on or about the 12th of last month. Official information has been received from Antivara that three English merchant vessels—the Marmora, the Seaton, and the Sunderland—had landed coals and ammunition, and that an English screw-sloop had just come into port. In my letter of the 21st or 22nd it was stated that French gold abounded at Cetinye; and there can be no doubt that the coin and material of war which have now been landed on the coast of Albania are intended for Prince Daniel and the Chief of the Miridites, who, as you are aware, have recently been in direct correspondence. Not long since Prince Milosch informed the Porte that he had not been able to prevent the march of a body of Servians—it is said to have been 2000 strong—across the frontier to Montenegro."

EARTHQUAKE AT ERZEROM.—Erzروم was well-nigh destroyed by an earthquake on the 2nd of June. At half-past ten o'clock a.m., and while people were engaged in their ordinary pursuits, a shock was felt, which, in the space of fifteen seconds, destroyed almost every building of importance in the town: mosques, churches, barracks, prisons, khans, and bazaars are either heaps of ruins or in such a state as to make it dangerous to approach them. The catastrophe also occasioned an immense loss of life—more than 1500 human beings, it was roughly calculated, having fallen a prey to the calamity. Slight shocks continued to occur till the evening of the 3rd.

THE ORDER OF THE GARTER.—The Earl of Derby and the Earl of Harrowby were created Knights of the Most Noble Order of the Garter on Tuesday. The Prince of Wales appeared at the chapter for the first time, and with the Prince Consort, assisted the Queen in investing the Earls. The Chancellor, by the Queen's command, read a statute declaring the Earl of Derby elected, notwithstanding any statute limiting the number of knights; but the next vacancy is not to be filled until the number of knights be reduced to twenty-five, not including the Prince of Wales, who is a constituent part of the Order.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

TURIN, Thursday, June 30.—**OFFICIAL BULLETIN.**—The Imperial head-quarters are at Volta. The passage of the Mincio by our troops continues. The Emperor visited the left bank of the river. The position of Vallegio has been occupied by the French. His Majesty has also had bridges thrown across the Mincio to replace those destroyed by the Austrians in their retreat.

BERNE, Thursday, June 30.—Messages from Turin confirm the intelligence that General Garibaldi has received orders to occupy the Upper Valteline. Garibaldi is expected at Tirano with 3000 men, where 500 Piedmontese regular infantry have already arrived. Skirmishes have taken place near Bormio between the franc corps of the Valteline and the Austrians who are guarding the Stelvio pass.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

THE President and minor dignitaries of the Corps Legislatif have been appointed. This has reference to the immediate convocation of that body for the purpose of voting more men and money for the service of the Government. Hitherto the appointments have not been made before October.

About 40,000 men left to join the army of Italy last week. Marshal Pelissier has made an arrangement with the Strasbourg and Mulhouse Railway Company to be always ready to convey 30,000 troops from Paris to Strasbourg within twelve hours, so that 100,000 men may be assembled on the Rhine within thirty-six hours.

Something has been said of a proposition for "mobilising" 10 battalions of National Guards, or reorganising them to do duty in the garrisons.

To-day (Saturday) the "Te Deum" is to be sung in all the churches of France, in celebration of the victory of Solferino. The Empress and all the great bodies of the State will attend the service in Notre Dame.

Paris was illuminated, of course, on the evening of the day when news came of the slaughter of Solferino. We have different stories as to the degree of enthusiasm exhibited by the people. Some of our newspaper correspondents say it was feeble, and forced; while listen to the *Morning Chronicle*:—"Paris was beautiful last night. All day long flags and banners had been waving to the breeze, but, once night had thrown her pall over Nature, rejoicing Paris blazed with light, and became resplendent in her joy. All was stir and animation. In all quarters of the city rays of dazzling light met the gaze of the admiring crowd. The Boulevards were one blaze of light, from the Madeleine to the Bastille, while in the poorer quarters of the city each window had its light; for all alike, rich and poor, were rejoicing. France has gained another great victory; and her people, proud of the deeds of their gallant army, were only too glad to show their joy and pride."

ITALY.

Prince Eugene of Savoy has issued a decree extending the forced currency of the national bank notes to Lombardy. Art. 2, moreover, provides that a branch of the national Piedmontese Bank shall be established at Milan, with a proportional increase of capital, to be raised by shares. Lombard capitalists are to have the preference in the purchase of these new securities. By another decree, dated the 15th, the Government of the territory of Parma is thoroughly organised after the Piedmontese system. The present governorships and prefectures are abolished, and replaced by Intendants-General and Intendants. A governor is appointed, exercising authority in the name of the King. The police is abolished, and delegations of public security established in its stead.

On Sunday week a crowd assembled before the French garrison at Rome, and were about to display the tricoloured flag, and to proclaim the dictatorship of Victor Emmanuel, but General Goyon prevented it. Strong patrols traversed the town. The Pope has notified his protest against the dismemberment of his States to the Powers represented at the Paris Conferences. A very energetic speech is said to have been delivered by the Pope on the 24th of June, the anniversary of his elevation to the Papal throne, before the Sacred College, in reply to the congratulations and vows of allegiance addressed to him. Plus IX., after having thanked his hearers for their vows, "more than ever necessary in presence of the dangers which menace the Papacy," proceeded, in terms borrowed from the Holy Scriptures, to condemn the conduct of the man from whom this scandal arose. No individual was pointed out, but as, according to another account, the Pope communicated to the Bishops at this same sitting a letter from the Emperor Napoleon, guaranteeing his independence, public rumour is inclined to fit the Papal admonition on King Victor Emmanuel.

One hundred and thirty-seven Sicilian refugees have received permission to return. The same indulgence is held out to others who, in demanding it, will promise obedience to the laws.

SPAIN.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs has addressed a new circular to the diplomatic agents of Spain at foreign Courts, directing them to observe the strictest neutrality in the Italian question.

PRUSSIA.

Prussia has made the proposition in the Federal Diet of Germany that the 7th and 8th army corps of the Federal Army should be formed into a corps of observation on the Upper Rhine. The proposition has been referred to the military committee of the Diet which approves the suggestion it is said. These two army corps embody the Federal contingents of the States in the south-west of Germany, Bavaria included. The latter State would have to be intrusted with the command of the corps of observation about to be formed.

RUSSIA.

It is positively asserted that orders have been issued by the Emperor Alexander for the concentration of three corps-d'armée, and that the reserves of the same are now being called in. But it is also said that His Majesty is not pleased with the policy of France. The cry raised in the West in favour of the different nationalities has been so loud that it has been heard in Poland, and recently the behaviour of the inhabitants of some parts of that kingdom has attracted the attention of the military authorities.

A letter from Nice says:—"Russia has just sent frigates to Villafranca to remove thence every article in the way of naval stores, provisions, and even sailors who had been left there. The officers are ignorant and the chiefs silent as to the cause which can have led to this sudden determination."

AMERICA.

A despatch from Washington says, "Recently-received information from Madrid of an altogether reliable character shows that, however desirable it may be for the United States to acquire Cuba, there is no prospect whatever of such a consummation, nor is there any probability of the negotiation of a commercial treaty between Spain and this country."

The views of the Administration on the subject of neutral rights were soon to be transmitted to Mr. Dallas, for communication to the British Government; and copies of the despatch were to be furnished by the respective Ambassadors to all the European Courts.

The revolution in Chili was ended, after a bloody battle fought between General Viadauri, with 4000 Government troops, and 3000 revolutionists under Gallo, near Coquimbo. Viadauri triumphed, taking 600 prisoners and all the guns of the enemy. More than 2000 men were slain.

From Mexico we learn that Miramon and the clergy had fallen out; the Church tried Miramon for suppressing a manifesto in favour of Zuloaga, who was said to be imprisoned; and Miramon in turn imprisoned the priests. The town of Morelia had been ravaged, and the women stripped naked and whipped to make them discover some treasure supposed to be hidden.

THE WAR.

THE BATTLE OF SOLFERINO.

ONE of the deadliest battles ever perpetrated was fought on the banks of the Mincio on the 24th of June; and, though the numbers killed and wounded are so many that both parties hesitate to publish even an approximate estimate, the termination of hostilities does not seem to be advanced a jot.

The first intelligence of the battle which reached us was through the following telegram from the French Emperor to the Empress:—

CAVRIANA, Friday Evening.—Great battle! Great victory! The whole Austrian army formed the line of battle, which extended five leagues in length. We have taken all their positions, and captured many cannon, flags, and prisoners. The battle lasted from four o'clock in the morning till eight o'clock in the evening.

Then followed another:—

CAVRIANA, June 26.

The Austrians, who had crossed the Mincio to attack us with the whole of their army, have been compelled to abandon their positions and retire to the left bank of the river.

They have blown up the bridge of Goito.

The loss of the enemy is very considerable; ours is much inferior. We have taken 30 pieces of cannon, three flags, and captured more than 7000 prisoners.

General Niel and his corps, as well as the entire army, have covered themselves with glory.

General Auger has lost an arm.

The Sardinian army, which occupied the extreme left of our position, inflicted severe losses on the enemy, after having contended with great obstinacy against superior numbers.

The Austrian official telegram was much more explicit; it is, indeed, the most candid and lucid acknowledgment of a defeat that ever appeared in so few words:—

VERONA, June 25.

The day before yesterday our right wing occupied Pozzolengo, Solferino, and Cavriana, and the left wing pressed forward yesterday as far as Guidizzof and Castellgoffredo, driving back the enemy. The collision of the two entire armies took place yesterday at ten a.m. Our left wing, under General Wimpfen, advanced nearly as far as the Chiese. In the afternoon a concentrated assault of the enemy was made upon the heroically defended town of Solferino. Our right wing repulsed the Piedmontese; but, on the other hand, the order of our centre could not be restored. Losses extraordinarily heavy, a violent thunderstorm, the development of powerful masses of the enemy against our left wing, and the advance of his main body against Volta, caused our retreat, which began late in the evening.

More detailed accounts have reached us from each side, from which we must infer that the battle was little less disastrous to the victors than to the vanquished. These seem to be the facts:—

It was not merely by the Austrians that the 24th had been selected for an attack upon their enemies, but by the allies also. On that day the King of Sardinia, as requested by his superior in command, the Emperor of the French, was to advance on the northern road leading from Montechiaro, by way of Lanato, to Peschiera; was to occupy the village of Pozzolengo, as the southernmost point of his position; and, at this point gained, was to invest Peschiera itself. The French, at the same time, intended to advance on the southern road, leading through Castiglione to Mantua, having detached General Canrobert's division still further southward, with orders to advance likewise in the direction of Mantua, or perhaps of Goito, which is situated a little north of it. Both armies, however, met the Austrians at the very outset of their advance, as early as four o'clock in the morning of the 24th, extending over a line of about ten miles, which cut the plain between the Mincio and the Chiese in an oblique direction facing the north-west, and at the same time, in very correct anticipation, the line of battle of the allies, leaning on Peschiera in the north-east, and on Castel Goffredo, ten miles distant from it, and close upon the Chiese, in the south-west. The battle soon extended at long range almost along the whole line, a small space near the centre excepted; and the accounts before us admit of little doubt that in the beginning, and during the whole first half of the day, it turned decidedly to the disadvantage of the allies. The Piedmontese were repulsed from Pozzolengo; the French, under Baraguay d'Hilliers, from Solferino; and before Castiglione the advance of the forces under the command of Marshals M'Mahon and Niel, with the Guards under Canrobert, a little to their right in advance, was brought to a perfect stop. These must have been anxious moments for the Emperor of the French, who soon hastened to take measures of precaution for this, the centre of his army. The King of Sardinia was requested to give up the advance on Peschiera, and to join Marshal Baraguay d'Hilliers with as many troops as he could, in attempting to regain Solferino. General Canrobert, with the Guards, received similar orders, with injunctions to refrain from any further movement in advance, and to take up a position on the heights, in the rear of General Niel and Marshal M'Mahon, who were struggling in the plain, to serve them as support in case a retreat should become necessary. It was such a movement of concentration as crowds of people in danger are wont to resort to almost involuntarily, and from sheer instinct.

These measures of precaution were only partly executed. The King of Sardinia, whose left or northern wing was leaning on the Lake of Garda, and occupying there the village of Desenzano, where the connection with the boats of the lake was kept up, soon saw that this whole left wing would be cut off at once by the Austrians, who kept rapidly pushing forward, if he attempted to send any considerable amount of force to Baraguay d'Hilliers, who was struggling southward to his right. The Sardinian division Fanti, which was already on its way to Solferino, was therefore ordered back by the King, and was used to continue the fight at Pozzolengo, which seems to have gone on with varying fortune almost the whole day, and until the fate of the battle was decided at Solferino. The struggle in front of Castiglione was equally obstinate. The Guard, at first kept in reserve, had to be made use of, and filled up the space left open between the corps of Niel and M'Mahon right and left of the road from Castiglione to Guidizzola and Mantua. According to one correspondent's account, almost the whole artillery of the Guard, which kept up a terrific yet ineffective cannonade on the Austrian lines for four hours and a half at half rifle-shot range, was annihilated, "nearly every officer and man of the artillery engaged being put hors de combat." The village of Solferino was taken by Baraguay d'Hilliers without any assistance, and, as the telegrams have already informed us, at an enormous loss of life on both sides. Having secured this position, Baraguay d'Hilliers pushed further on in the direction of Cavriana, to the south-east of Solferino, thus threatening the flank of the Austrian masses opposed to Niel, M'Mahon, and the Guards, on the road to Guidizzola, and cutting the Austrian line into two. From this moment the Austrian retreat began, and the present accounts are confirmatory of the first telegram from the Austrian side, which says that Volta, situated nearer the Mincio than Cavriana, being threatened, they preferred giving up the advantages they had secured in both the north-eastern and the south-eastern flank, and resolved to fall back on the Mincio. This, too, is the moment when the thunderstorm, which in Italy is a very different thing from an ordinary English thunderstorm, broke upon the two armies. The whole scene at that hour of the afternoon must have been frightful. When the sun, near its setting point, broke forth again, it shone over an army which was unable to pursue its dearly-bought victory, and over columns retreating in sullen silence, conscious that they had left the enemy little profit in the retreat.

Both the Emperors were in the field, in command. Napoleon is said to have been in the thickest of the fire. Dr. Larrey, who accompanied his Majesty, had a horse killed under him; and two horses of the Cent Gardes, who escorted his Majesty, were also killed. What is more, his Majesty passed the night of Friday in the room occupied in the morning by the Emperor of Austria. His Majesty communicated this fact to the Empress, and so to the world, at the very earliest opportunity.

Nothing is said of the loss in killed and wounded on either side; but when we consider that, according to the Emperor's first account, the whole Austrian army was on the field, that the battle lasted sixteen hours—from four in the morning till eight in the evening—and that the two Emperors were present, we may be certain that it was very great. Something is said of 10,000 or 12,000 killed and

wounded on the side of the French, and still more on that of the Austrians, but this is only conjecture. General Niel has been created Field Marshal.

RETURN OF THE AUSTRIAN EMPEROR TO VIENNA.

The Emperor Francis Joseph returns to the capital of his dominions, and General Hess takes the chief command of the Austrian army, and we are told that this army is preparing for a new battle. The reason that the Emperor goes to Vienna is put down as "important Government business." There is a report that he will have an interview with the Prince Regent of Prussia.

PASSAGE OF THE MINCIO.

The French crossed the Mincio on the 28th ult. unopposed.

FRANCHE ACCOUNT OF THE BATTLE.

The *Moniteur* publishes the following details of the battle of Solferino, received from Cavriana, under date of the 25th:—

"Yesterday was distinguished by one of those battles which, if they do not terminate a war, enable us, at least, to anticipate its conclusion. The Emperor of Austria commanded in person; he has now seen with what a nation he has engaged in hostilities."

"The Austrians in their previous retreats still contemplated a renewal of the attack. Their last decided retreat behind the Mincio was intended to inspire us with an excess of confidence, to leave a wide space open to the rapidity of our movements, and thus to expose our columns, placed at a distance from each other by their order of march, to a sudden attack which might have weakened, by isolating, them. But, fortunately, the Emperor had not departed from that extreme discretion which governs even his courage. The further the allied army advanced the more our columns strengthened each other by being brought closer together."

"During the night of the 23rd we found that the Austrians were re-passing the Mincio, and advancing to meet us. A battle was imminent. The whole army of the enemy, retracing its steps, was prepared to oppose our forward movement; Solferino, San Cassiano, Cavriana, all formidable positions, were occupied by the Austrians, who, supported by a strong force of artillery, crowned all the heights as far as Volta. To their left, in the plain, between Volta, Guidizzolo, and Medole, numerous columns of infantry, mixed with artillery and cavalry, were advancing to turn our right. Between Solferino and Peschiera the enemy had also a considerable force, intended to oppose the troops of the King of Sardinia marching from Desenzano to Pozzolengo. The two armies occupied these respective positions when, at five o'clock in the morning, the 1st corps (Marshal Baraguay d'Hilliers) commenced the engagement before Solferino. The heights and the village were taken and occupied after an obstinate engagement. During this action the 2nd corps (Marshal M'Mahon's), which was on the right of the 1st in the plain, was extended towards its own right, in order to unite with the force under General Niel, who was advancing upon Medole."

"The Emperor had taken the command of the whole army. His Majesty ordered the infantry and artillery of the Guard to move forward into a position between the 1st and 2nd corps, and to take San Cassiano. Then, to reinforce the right of Marshal M'Mahon (2nd corps), which was slightly weakened by the distance from it of General Niel, his Majesty ordered all the cavalry of the Guard and the two divisions of cavalry of the 1st and 3d corps to occupy the vacant space between the 2d and 4th corps. Marshal Canrobert had been directed to watch the Austrian movement expected from the side of Mantua.

"Our army fought the whole day, advancing slowly, but always advancing in good order, the different corps in combination with each other."

"The 1st corps, after having carried Solferino, took all the Austrian positions in the direction of Pozzolengo successively. The night only stopped its advance. The Guard moved upon San Cassiano and Cavriana, occupying the summits of the hills. This last village was taken by a rapid attack, under the eyes of the Emperor, who himself directed the fire of the artillery."

"As to the 4th corps, under General Niel, it advanced step by step, always gaining ground. Towards four o'clock in the afternoon the Austrians, to succumb in their retreat, made a last effort to penetrate between the 4th and 2nd corps. An obstinate conflict then commenced, in which the infantry and artillery took part. The cavalry, by several charges, decided the success of this great day. This was the last act of the battle. Along their whole line the Austrians began their retreat; it was favoured by a frightful storm, that raged for nearly an hour—thunder, hail, and wind; at last a deluge of rain produced such an effect that nothing could be distinguished on the field of battle. When the weather again became calm the enemy had disappeared, but in the distance could be seen the direction their retiring columns were taking. The Emperor of Austria, who had lodged at Cavriana in the house in which the Emperor later in the day established his head-quarters, quitted the field of battle about four o'clock, and went by the road to Goito. The cloud of dust raised by his escort could be seen from the heights of Cavriana."

"The Emperor Napoleon has in a degree surpassed himself; everywhere, and at all times, he was seen directing the battle. Every one about his person trembled at the dangers that unceasingly threatened him; he alone seemed not to perceive them. The protection with which Providence shielded him was extended to his Staff. Only one of the Cent Gardes was wounded near his Majesty; several horses of the Staff and escort were wounded and killed."

The *Piedmontese Gazette* also had an official report of the battle, but whatever of interest or information it possesses is contained above.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

A correspondent of the *Daily News* writes:—

"It was about two o'clock in the morning when I arrived, with my companion, at Montechiara. The place was all confusion, for the troops were already in movement towards the front. We made our way through the stony ground of the Campagna towards Castiglione delle Stiviere. We had not yet arrived in the town when the report of field-guns on our right gave the signal that the fight had begun in the direction of Medole. And so it had, for when we reached the town of Castiglione we found that the Imperial Guard was already marching in haste towards that direction. Our horses were too tired to follow the movements of the army, so I thought it was better to proceed at once to the Monte del Belvedere, an elevated hill from which one can overlook all the Campagna of Medole, a large plain, only circumscribed by the far-distant horizon. Once arrived at the Roccolo Beschi, we could distinctly see the smoke of field-guns and muskets—in a word, all the operations of the army. The French body which was first thus engaged was the corps-d'armée of General Niel, which since the preceding evening was marching in the direction of Medole. The advanced guard of General Niel had met three divisions of Urban's corps, at a farmhouse called the Casa di Maioralsice, and was obliged to make its way amidst a tremendous fire of musketry and artillery. As soon as Marshal Canrobert was made aware of the enemy's attack he ordered his troops to throw aside their knapsacks, and with all possible speed hasten to the scene of action. After an hour's fight the action became general all over the plain, and the Emperor soon converted it into a regular pitched battle. Marshal M'Mahon was soon engaged on the left, and the distant report of the artillery, which was carried by the wind blowing from the Lago di Garda, apprised us that the Piedmontese army was equally engaged somewhere near Rivoltella and Peschiera. It was about two o'clock in the afternoon when the Piedmontese, proceeding from Rivoltella, succeeded in making their junction with the French army. The French centre had been compelled by the events of the day to concentrate the mass of its forces towards the hilly village of Solferino, where the Austrians were disputing the ground with an energy unprecedented in the present war. The battle became then a tremendous one. The Piedmontese, led by the King, really performed wonders. . . . Of course it is impossible for me to send you a correct account of this great and bloody struggle, in which the Austrians mustered not less than 140,000 men. The allies had as

many as that, though not until nearly the close of the day. The losses on both sides have been tremendous. The Sindaco of Castiglione told me half an hour ago that he thought the two armies had not less than 40,000 hors de combat. Field-pieces, prisoners, flags, I hear, have also fallen into our hands, and I saw myself batches of prisoners sent to Castiglione and to Brescia. At about eight o'clock in the evening the smoke, which had enveloped for more than ten hours the hills which stretch away from Castiglione as far as Volta, was gradually dispersing, so it was clear that the great struggle was drawing to a close. I descended from the Monte del Belvedere, and, almost exhausted by the sleepless night I had passed, came back to Castiglione, which I found all in confusion. Thousands of wounded were arriving every moment.

MASACRE AT PERUGIA.

Repeated intelligence confirms the sad news that the Swiss regiments in the Papal service attacked Perugia last Monday week; that an obstinate resistance was made; that after three hours' fighting without the walls the Swiss forced their way into the town, but that the combat continued for two hours longer in the streets; that the conduct of the Swiss was marked by circumstances of great brutality, leading to a fresh rising and to fresh street fights on the following day; and that the town is now in a state of siege. The number of killed and wounded during the struggle appears to have been small, but it seems after all resistance had ceased that the troops began to massacre the citizens indiscriminately, sparing neither age nor sex. The municipality attempted to stop this carnage, and left the Townhall with a white flag for the purpose, but they were fired upon by the soldiery, and Secretary Porta, who carried the flag, fell mortally wounded.

A letter in the *Corriere Mercantile* gives a long list of the persons murdered by the soldiery after all fighting was over. Among these we find three married couples, five old women, three unmarried females, and a child five years old, &c. An infant was taken from its mother's breast and thrown into the Tiber; even an old beggar was shot in the streets, and many men wantonly murdered or wounded. The names of the sufferers are given in the list.

The *Opinione* of Turin says:—"Treachery introduced the Swiss into Perugia. The circuit of the town is very extensive: though the present population is only 20,000, it has been as high as 80,000. Only part of the old gates of the town are used, the rest being always kept shut. One of these last leads into the garden of a Dominican convent, and the friars opened it to the Swiss, while the inhabitants were endeavouring to drive them back in another quarter. Though the townsmen had few arms, the struggle was protracted for three hours after the Swiss got inside."

THE FRENCH IN THE ADRIATIC.

There is every reason to believe that we shall soon have important news from the Adriatic—perhaps the occupation of Venice by the French—as a very large force, naval and military, is mustering in that sea.

The *Times* correspondent at Vienna telegraphs the following intelligence:—"On the 28th the following French ships were at Antivari:—Five ships of the line, eight frigates, six war-steamer, thirteen floating batteries, nine gun-boats, nine brigs, and two three-masters. The fleet has many troops and enormous supplies of provisions and ammunition on board, so that it can act independently of the mother country, should any other Power attempt to interfere. Admiral Bouet is about to open sealed orders.

PRINCE NAPOLEON'S CORPS.

Prince Napoleon arrived on Saturday at Parma. He is said to have about 40,000 men with him, and nine batteries—that is fifty-four pieces of artillery.

Laybach has been fixed as the seat of the military and civil Government of Lombardy, and of the employés of the Government.

General Gyulai has, in the capacity of Colonel, assumed the command of the regiment which belongs to him and bears his name.

"So confident was Austria in her military position," says the *Times*, on the battle of Solferino, "that only a few hours before the battle began her emissaries solicited the neutral Powers to abstain from interfering with the progress of the campaign."

A letter from the Austrian head-quarters, dated three days before the battle of Solferino, shows us the strength and condition of the Austrian army at that time:—"Large cavalry reinforcements are arriving daily, and also infantry, particularly volunteer battalions from Hungary. Altogether the first and second armies (those now available for active operations) cannot number less than 150,000 men, even after all losses; so we must expect a renewal of operations as soon as the men now in hospital with feet sore from marching (there are 3000 such) are able to return to their duty. A week's rest will restore most of them, and the same period will permit the new generals to become acquainted with their troops and staff officers. Half the divisions of both armies are commanded by Generals only promoted to their present rank within the last week or two."

Among the causes assigned for the Austrians having recrossed the Mincio to offer the allies battle, it is said that the Prince Regent of Prussia suggested to the Emperor of Austria the expediency of fighting a great battle on the right bank of that river. If the battle was gained by the latter he would not require the intervention of Prussia, but if he was beaten, and the allies followed the Austrians across the Mincio, that would alter the question.

MANTUA, PESCHIERA, AND THE LINE OF THE MINCIO.

The line of the Mincio and Adige seem to define the limits of the march of an invading army from the westward, and it is on the fortresses situated on these rivers that the Austrians depend for a successful stand against the enemy.

The Mincio descends from Monte Tonale, in the Tyrol, and, flowing through the Val di Rendena and the head of the Giudicaria, falls into the Lake of Garda, at Riva. The Lake of Garda is the largest of the Italian lakes, being about thirty-seven miles in length by seven and a half in breadth. It is surrounded on all sides by mountains, and on the east is separated from the River Adige by Monte Baldo. On the banks of the Lake of Garda are thirteen posts, of which the principal are Garda, Torri, Malcesine, Torbole, Salo, and Peschiera.

The Mincio leaves the Lake of Garda at Peschiera, a small town situated on an island formed by the river at its exit. Peschiera is an important fortification, the works of which, since the events of 1848, when it fell into the hands of Charles Albert's army, have been greatly strengthened. On the right or west bank of the Mincio the works have been extended to some distance, so as to form an entrenched camp large enough to contain a strong division. Besides the additional strength imparted to the town of Peschiera by this entrenched camp, it is of importance because it threatens the flanks of an army attempting the passage of the Mincio at Göito or Valeggio. The flotilla of the Lake of Garda, for which Peschiera serves as a harbour, is available for making sudden descents on the shores of the lake, and might cause annoyance to the advance of an army from the west. Sluices also have been established at Peschiera to raise the waters of the lake at pleasure, and so to destroy by the flushes, which would be felt as low as Mantua, bridges of boats, or frameworks of temporary bridges, that the enemy might throw across the river between these two towns. From Peschiera the Mincio runs to the south-east by Monzambano, where the French effected a passage in 1800, Borghetto—passage of the French in 1796—Pozzolo, where the French were victorious in 1800, and Göito, at the meeting of the roads from Brescia and Cremona. Lower down it forms two lakes—one above, the other below, Mantua—and falls into the Po at Governola.

Mantua was originally the capital of a duchy, and has long been one of the strongest fortifications of Europe. It is situated, like Peschiera, on an island in the Mincio. The superficial area of this island is up-

wards of 123 acres, and is united to one of equal extent called the Thé, which serves as an exercise-ground, and on which Wurmser's army was encamped in 1796. These two islands are situated in the middle of a lake formed by an enlargement of the river, and are about 870 yards distant from either bank. Mantua is unapproachable, and, even if the waters of the lake were drawn off (which operation has been attempted), the result would only be a pestilential marsh. The town, being entirely surrounded by water and marshes, communicates with the mainland by narrow causeways, two of which are on the left, and three on the right bank. Four forts defend these passages—the citadel and Saint George to the east, the Pradella and the Pietole to the west. The three causeways of Saint George, the Pradella, and the Pietole form embankments which support the system of inundation. If once the besiegers make themselves masters of the exterior works, they may easily establish and maintain the blockade of Mantua; but they are scarcely more advanced towards the prosecution of a regular siege, as they can only open the trenches upon the narrow causeways which lead into the town. The waters of the lake stagnating in summer, the place becomes very unwholesome, and this unwholesomeness is not the least of its means of defence, for it is impossible to besiege it without risking the destruction of an army by sickness. This sketch of the place will suffice to explain the tough resistance Mantua has always offered.

The Mincio is a river of no great breadth, confined by means of dykes, and easily navigable. The ground about Mantua being marshy, and consequently impracticable for an army, the line of defence is reduced to the space between Peschiera and Mantua, a distance of about twenty-four miles. This line of defence, the most important in all Italy, is all the stronger for being so short. At one end it rests upon Peschiera, at the other on Mantua, and is covered by the Lake of Garda and the Po. Peschiera protects the upper course of the Mincio, Mantua the lower, as also the Seraglio, a canal which is directed from the lakes of Mantua in a south-west direction to the Po, forming a very fertile island, which is the great resource of Mantua for its supplies.

The banks of the Mincio are of an unequal height, sometimes elevated on the right, at others on the left, bank. The numerous windings and the sinuous source of the river supply, in addition, some favourable points for effecting the passage of the river. The low hills of Monzambano and of Volta command the left bank, those of Salionze and Naleggio the right. There are eight passages—Peschiera, Salionze, Monzambano, Molini, Borghetto, Göito, Mantua, and Governolo. Monzambano and Molini are the two generally used by an army crossing to the left bank on its march to Verona. At these two points the right bank commands the left, and the position of the river, which makes a very decided bend, facilitates the establishment of batteries, whose fire would radiate over a considerable surface. The former of these passages is about seven miles below Peschiera, and near Valeggio; the latter is situated between Valeggio and Monzambano.

When the passage of a river is attempted, it is of great importance to threaten the enemy simultaneously at different points, so as to oblige him to distribute his forces, and weaken the resistance at the point which has been selected for the operation. The numerous points of crossing to be found on the banks of the Mincio facilitate this manœuvre, and for this reason it is of essential interest to an army descending from the Tyrol, or from Upper Austria, to take immediate possession of the line of the Mincio, which is approachable from the frontier of the Tyrol by several roads, some of which lead to the back of this line, and others direct to Peschiera.

There is a railway communication between Peschiera and Verona, as also between Verona and Mantua.

ANOTHER CIRCULAR BY COUNT CAUOUR.

A circular despatch, dated the 14th, addressed by Count Cavour to the representatives of Sardinia at the foreign Courts, has been published. In this document, which is of considerable length, Count Cavour explains his views of the events which have occurred since the commencement of the war. He recalls the fact that the programme of the Congress proposed by Russia had for its base the maintenance of treaties which secure Austria in her Italian possessions. Austria having refused her adhesion to this programme, and having invaded Piedmont, the victories of the allied armies have placed Lombardy in their possession. The deep sentiments of antipathy on the part of the Italian populations against the Austrian Government have burst forth; and the very authorities established by Austria have proclaimed her fall, and demanded the annexation of their country to Piedmont. The King of Sardinia, in accepting this spontaneous expression of the national will, makes no attack upon existing treaties, since Austria, in refusing the Congress which had the maintenance of these treaties as its base, has herself annulled them as far as she is concerned, and restored to the Italian populations their natural rights. The object of the present war, firmly avowed by the King, is Italian independence and the exclusion of Austria from the peninsula. The formal declarations of the Emperor Napoleon have reassured those who attributed ambitious designs to his generous intervention. Count Cavour concludes his circular by expressing his confidence that the European equilibrium will not be disturbed, and that there will be seen in Italy "a strongly constituted kingdom—such as is naturally indicated by geographical configuration, unity of race, language, and manners, and such as diplomacy at former periods has shown a desire to create in the common interest of Italy and of Europe."

PRUSSIAN POLICY.

A letter coming through the Havas agency from Berlin, and dated the 25th of June, says:—

"The situation is becoming more simple. The opinion everywhere expressed, that Prussia would have no motive for meddling in the war as long as it was confined to Italy, has also gained the ascendant in official circles. It is stated that at the last sitting of the Council of Ministers, presided over by the Prince Regent, a complete programme of the Prussian policy was made out. This programme rested on the following bases:—Prussia will abstain from taking an active part in the war so long as the fighting is confined in Italy; but as soon as it shall be carried into any other part whatever of Austrian territory, even if the part shall not belong to the German Confederation, Prussia will take up arms.

"The mobilisation which has been going on was simply with the view of putting Prussia into a position to meet an eventuality of this kind, and of preventing any great extension of the war. In any case, Prussia will not take up the offensive without coming to a previous understanding with Russia and England.

"It is further added that preliminary steps have already been taken for arriving at this understanding, should events take the course alluded to, and that, on the other hand, Prussia has definitely refused the demand made by Austria for a guarantee of a part or the whole of her Italian possessions. This programme is of the greatest importance, if it were only on account of its showing that the old policy of a defence on the Mincio had been completely abandoned.

"The Prussian troops will take up the following positions:—The 8th corps will go to Coblenz and Trèves, the 7th to Cologne, the 4th to Dusseldorf, the 3rd to Frankfort, the 5th to Mayence. The Guard will be placed in reserve at Erfurt, and in the Thuringia."

There is a rumour that the Emperor of Austria will shortly have an interview with the Prince Regent of Prussia.

Mrs. WICKHAM'S CHEESEMONGER.—Mrs. Harriet Wickham, a London milliner, compounded with all her creditors but one, a cheesemonger, who wrote to her to the effect that he, or some one for him, would call upon her every ten minutes till the debt in full was liquidated. In carrying out this illegal resolution he came repeatedly knocking at the door, and ringing the bell violently. In the interim of these "calls," the defendant wrote to the complainant in a singular style on the loss of his butter and bacon. In one letter he exclaims, "Ah, would to Heaven my excellent butter and bacon had never been incorporated with your unworthy self!" Mrs. Wickham summoned the cheesemonger for annoying her, and the magistrate bound him over not to do so any more.

TWO ITALIAN GIRLS.

"In Italy," said Alfieri, in an often-quoted sentence, "the plant Man reaches its full growth," and this, of course, includes the Better Half of humanity. Shelley has left, in his letters, a very striking record of his impressions of the beauties of that peninsula. He says that the women are lovely enough till they open their mouths. Kingsley might, one is apt to say, have written that line of one of his sonnets expressly apropos of such creatures—

Lips that should but kiss, and so be still.
But that Shelley did not find *all* Italian girls alike he has recorded, still more imperishably, in his "Epipsychedion," addressed to Emilia V—,

Thou Wonder, and thou Beauty, and thou

Terror!
and no country, we think, can show a larger muster-roll of illustrious women than Italy. The two fair young creatures before us are neither wonderful nor terrible; but surely they are beautiful, and not wanting in indications of *capability*? Nothing but long intermixure of races can materially alter national character, and original types will reappear at intervals, even after long apparent fusion of peculiarities in an ethnological mean. But culture could do wonders for these two ladies, depend upon it; and when their sunny native land, washed by the blue tideless sea, gets good government, we dare say they will come in for a little of the care of the schoolmistress abroad. Nothing can well be lower, within the bounds of civilisation, than the educational chances of an Italian girl. If she can play the piano, speak French a little, and say "How do you do?" in English, she is "accomplished." In the land of the Caesars she is, be sure, ignorant of the history of the Julius that came to Britain; nor does she know where that little island rides in the bosom of the deep. Ask her of the Lake of Como, in her own country, and she is as bewildered as if you asked her the way to Asgard. She writes, like schoolboy of six, upon ruled lines; and talks smaller things than an English waiting-maid. This is, perhaps, not a very incorrect description of the Italian Lady under our eye—she is a fair type of the young female bourgeoisie of Italy. In the morning you may see her—if you are on the spot—on her way to church, and in the evening on her way to the theatre, with much the same expression in her face. There she comes, with her semi-infantine smile, her purple-black hair, and her little red shawl; and if your idea of a woman's mind is that it should be intellectually a blank, in order that you may write what you please upon it, she is probably not unlike what you would seek. But, ignorant or not, she is a woman, with all the infinite mystery of her sex about her; and, if you are at all open to impulses of tender reverence, you will find upon close approach (should you decide for this darkling little beauty) that she can make your heart sink into your feet as well as an English girl.

As for the Water-carrier, she is a public character, and in virtue of mingling more with her fellow-creatures, and seeing more "life," may, though of course without the graces of culture in the shade, be a really better-trained being than her sister with that coil of necklace.

She is as well known as the Doge's Palace, in the square of which



AN ITALIAN LADY.

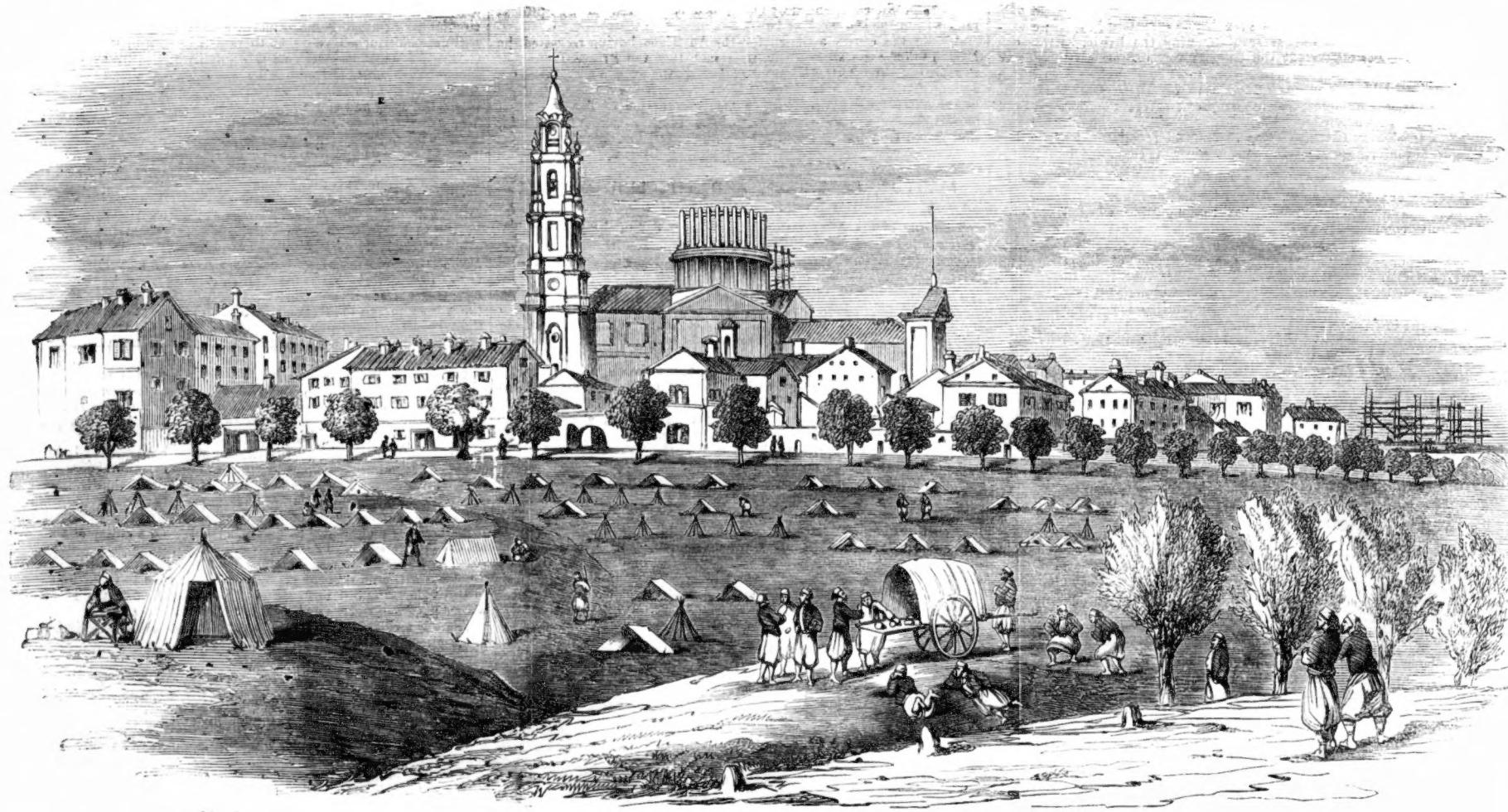
you may often meet her, going to fill her pails, with a bouquet of flowers in her black felt hat, and the most charming nonchalance of manner under her yoke. The sisterhood of water-carriers are, as a body, not handsome, but this sample is a very pleasant exception to the general plainness. Salute her respectfully, reader, and hope, with us, that her shoulder is not galled with her burden.

At present all the Italian women are in love with the whole French army. Not only do high-born dames visit the hospitals, succouring

23rd, 1849, between the Austrians under Radetsky on the one side, and the Piedmontese under King Charles Albert on the other—a battle which resulted in the route of the Sardinian army and the abdication of the King.

THE BRIDGE OF BUFFALORA.

The worst mischance that befell the Austrians when they retreated across the Ticino was their failure in blowing up the bridge of Buffalora.



VIEW OF NOVARA.—(FROM A SKETCH BY F. VIZETELLY.)

the wounded, but they continue their fostering care during convalescence.

"Never yet were men made so much of," says a letter-writer from Milan. "I speak not of the officers only, but of the rank and file. The private sentinel finds himself the hero of the hour, welcomed and caressed in society into which, but for this campaign of liberation, he would have gone down to his grave without penetrating. The Zouave is particularly in demand. One sees him driving about in elegant carriages with aristocratic ladies, and attended by liveried domestics. With one arm in a sling, he gives the other, clothed in the coarse uniform sleeve, to delicate silk-clad dames and damsels, who gladly accept his escort, walk with him in the street, and sit with him in cafés. Many of those ladies have made his acquaintance in the hospital, and, having nursed him into convalescence, desire to complete his cure, that he may again go forth and do battle in Italy's cause." We can very well believe this letter-writer when he says, "Long after the laurels of Magenta and Melegnano shall have lost their freshness, and after the majority of those who fought there and survived shall have fallen in other fights, or have quitted the army's ranks, will Milan be a word of pleasant memory to the soldiers of France."

NOVARA.

The accompanying View of Novara is from a sketch made by one of our Artists while passing through the town on his way to the battle-field of Magenta. He describes it in his letter as the handsomest town he had seen in Piedmont. The Cathedral, which is an early Lombard building, contains numerous frescoes, somewhat injured by time, but still showing, nevertheless, considerable artistic power and beauty. The high altar, which is of modern date, is a most gorgeous structure. In front of the Cathedral is a cloistered court, from one of the sides of which opens the curious circular baptistery, with plastic representations of the events of the Passion in the recesses between the columns. The figures are all life size, and painted in gaudy colours, and some of them are worked up to present a greater resemblance to life by the addition of real hair. The situation of Novara is on a gently rising ground, above the plain of the Tendopio. It is surrounded by beautiful green slopes, on the sides of which the tents of a regiment of Zouaves were pitched at the time the present Sketch was made. The town was formerly encompassed by fortifications, but these have, for the most part, disappeared. Novara is mainly celebrated for the sanguinary battle fought a short distance from the town on March the

23rd, 1849, between the Austrians under Radetsky on the one side, and the Piedmontese under King Charles Albert on the other—a battle which resulted in the route of the Sardinian army and the abdication of the King.

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The worst mischance that befell the Austrians when they retreated across the Ticino was their failure in blowing up the bridge of Buffalora.

It seems that a portion of the powder which had been dispatched from Milan for carrying out this operation was used in destroying some smaller bridges across the canals, and the quantity that remained was insufficient to demolish one of the arches of the Buffalora bridge. The massive masonry was greatly shaken and displaced, but not completely overthrown. The bridge, said to be one of the finest in Italy, has eleven arches. The pier between the two last of these at the east end has sunk, and the arches, of course, with it; the large slabs of granite, however, afford each other mutual support, and, although the bridge is now closed against all traffic, infantry, cavalry, and even guns passed over the first few days after the failure of the Austrian attempt to demolish the structure.

Of the two colossal spurs which protect the bridge against the fall of the waters, one is a heap of ruins, and the other cracked and tottering. The French Emperor desires that, at any price, the railway should be opened the whole way from Milan to Novara. While the repairs of the Buffalora bridge are going on with a view to effect this object a bridge of boats has in the meantime been thrown across the Ticino. This bridge, a model of lightness and solidity, affords passage to the heaviest loads, and also to cannon. On the 17th ult. thirty-five pieces of cannon went across. They were 12-pounders, corresponding with 24-pounders of the old system. Each gun was drawn with perfect facility by four horses at a trot. Another military bridge of boats is being constructed, which is to serve for the great transport of provisions and merchandise.

NOTES OF THE WAR.

THE task of a liberator has its burdens no doubt, its sorrows and its dangers, but it has its sweets also. Prince Napoleon reached Massa on Saturday week. By way of a genial reception the Corporation had chosen a bevy of the twelve prettiest damsels of the burgher class that the town could boast, and decked out in white robes and flowers, and elegantly-dressed hair, they were sent to meet the Prince a few steps beyond the town gates. Two of the very handsomest laid hold of the "conquering hero's" reins, the ten others ranged themselves in two lines by his stirrups, and, escorted by this fair retinue, the Commander-in-Chief was ushered in in a storm of applause loud enough to shake down the dilapidated fortress still crowning the hill above the town. These lady grooms and lackeys would yield to no one the honour of holding the Prince's bridle and stirrups as he alighted under the lofty gateway of the mansion once raised by the ducal house of Cibo. Not to be overdone in deeds of courtesy, Prince Napoleon offered both arms to the two girls who seemed the leaders of their sisterhood, addressed a few words to them, which were not caught, and, with an air of stately gallantry, which sits well on his good-humoured countenance, led the way up the grand white marble staircase, and, as he stood at the door of his private apartments, he turned with a right Imperial bow to the galaxy of fair attendants, and, disengaging the arms of the two he had honoured with his especial attention, kissed (tell it not in the Palais

Royal!)—kissed the cheeks of both, cheeks which so high a distinction

raised to the flaming colour of the Prince's kepi.

The *Piedmontese Gazette* publishes addresses to the King of Sardinia from Pavia, Crema, and Brescia, in which his Majesty is most unequivocally saluted as Sovereign of those territories. The *Alba* of Brescia, a journal the first number of which appeared on the 18th, heads its columns with an article beginning as follows:—"Victor Emmanuel is in his most faithful town of Brescia!" The clergy of Brescia have also

presented an address to the King which is equally explicit in its tone. At Piacenza the municipality caused a "Te Deum" to be sung for the happy union of that province with the Sardinian States.

A good story is told in the *Sport* newspaper. A detachment of the Austrians was sent from Peschiera by the railway to reinforce General Urban. The engineer, by accident or design, brought the train on to the quarters of the French army. The soldiers of the latter opened the doors, crying out, "Gentlemen, change carriages here for France, if you please!"

The Austrian Government declares it is in a position to oppose a flat denial to the reported cruelties attributed to General Urban in the message of Count Cavour. The Austrian Government promises soon to publish ample details.

A letter from Prague says:—"Part of the French prisoners have been sent to reside at Theresenstadt, opposite Leitmeritz, on the Elbe. They express gratitude for the manner in which they are treated by the Austrians. Three months' allowance has been paid them in advance, and the officers are allowed all the liberty their situation permits."

A correspondent of the *Siecle* says that one of the best shots in Garibaldi's service is an Englishman of fifty years old, who carries a capital Lancaster rifle, and, aided by a pair of spectacles of which he stands in need, brings down every Tyrolean chasseur that he takes aim at. Somebody lately asked him whether he had been attracted to join the volunteer corps by a strong feeling for the Italian cause or by a love of sport. He answered very coolly, "I have a great respect for Italian independence, but I am also very fond of shooting." [We suspect that this story is more amusing than true.]

Count Gyulai has refused the Banat of Croatia.

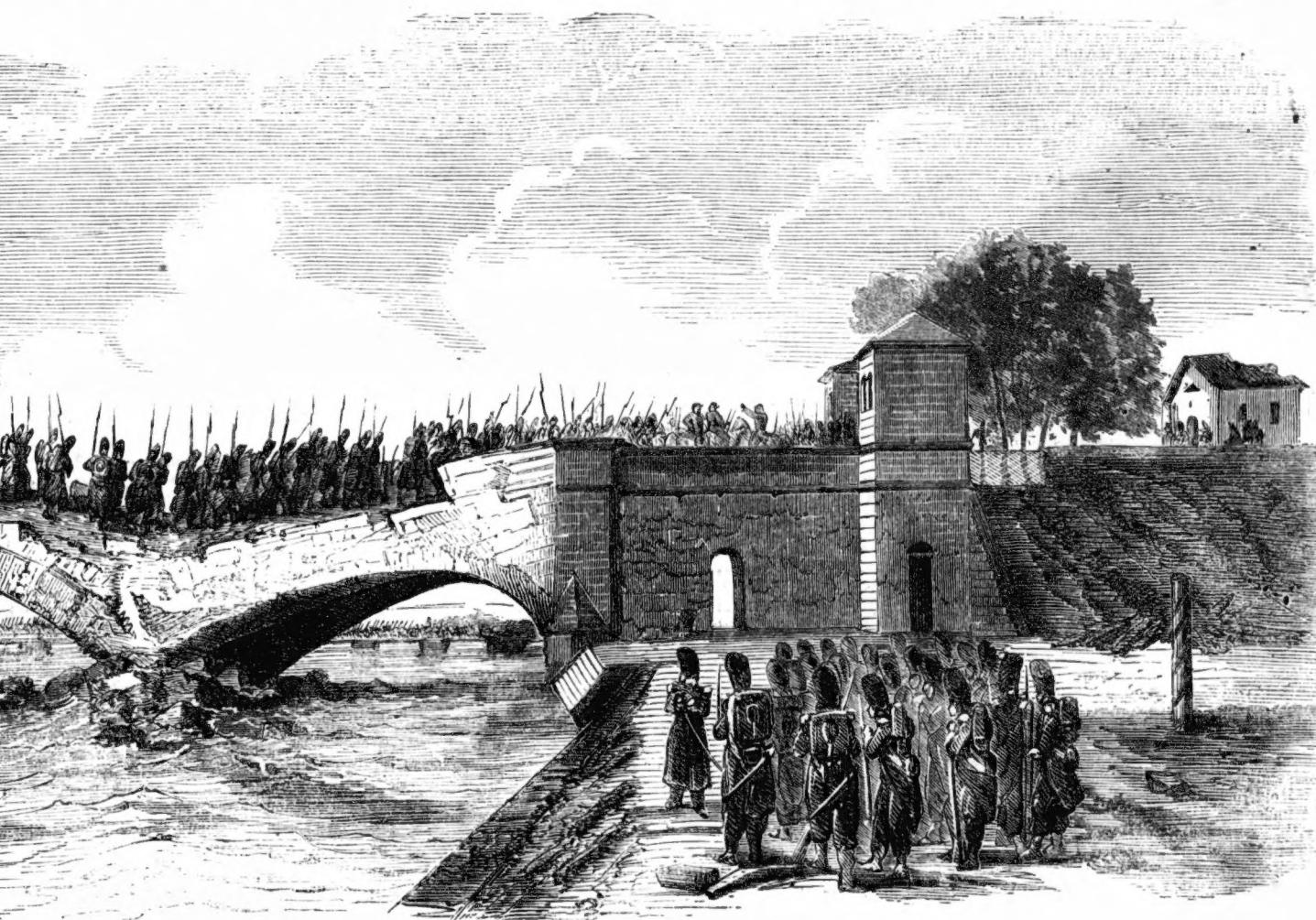
Marshal Vaillant is said to have been dismissed by his Emperor for believing the battle of Magenta lost, and counselling a retreat.

"The French are mistaken," says the correspondent of the *Times* at the Austrian head-quarters, "in thinking that they had 125,000 Austrians opposed to them at Magenta. From eleven o'clock in the morning till three, only part of the 1st corps (part was still at Munich), part of the 2nd, and half the 7th corps were alone in the field—in all under 25,000 men. By three o'clock, when Schwarzenberg's corps began to arrive, half of the others were hors de combat—either killed, wounded, or dispersed. As this corps was only 18,000 strong, and came into action brigade after brigade, it is quite clear that 25,000 men were the utmost force the Austrians ever brought on the field at one moment."

"You are probably aware," writes the same correspondent, "that in Prussia marriages between Protestants are not for life, but can be annulled if reasonable grounds can be alleged for the wish to separate. The most usual pretext is a desire to marry some one else's wife or husband; and, if that somebody else can be suited with another wife or husband, the necessary divorces are granted almost as a matter of course. I was paying a visit at Breslau once when a lady and gentleman entered the room, so exceedingly loving and polite that on their leaving I remarked that it was evident



WATER-CARRIER OF VENICE.



FRENCH TROOPS CROSSING THE BRIDGE OF BUFFALORA.—(FROM A SKETCH BY DURAND BRAGER.)

they had just been married, or else were just about to be so. I was informed, however, on the contrary, they were going to be divorced as soon as the other two or three couples interested had signed the necessary papers. The mutual bearing of the Austrians and Lombards during the last ten days irresistibly reminds me of this polite couple. The Lombards—I mean, of course, the richer tribe who live in cities, not the other ninety per cent who make no noise, and about whose desires, therefore, you can care nothing—do not seem quite sure that they are changing masters wisely, and in their present unwonted civility I fancy I can trace a tinge of absolute regret. Whether the affability of the Austrians is assumed, or the result of some similar feelings, I cannot say, but the fact remains that they now show no trace of that overbearing insolence which I have witnessed in this province on former occasions."

According to a letter received in Paris from Vienna, one of the embarrassments of the Government is the presence of Italian soldiers in the army. Yesterday four unfortunate soldiers of the Allemann Regiment were shot. They were accused of exciting a mutiny. Three soldiers of the same regiment were shot a few days since at Goritz. The Colonel harangued his soldiers, and told them frankly that if the French should be victorious the Austrian Government would send all the Italians to Italy, but if the contrary should take place all the deserters would be sought for, and punished according to military law. It is consequently clear that it is their interest to remain quiet, and wait the course of events. Notwithstanding this specious reasoning, fifty men of that regiment have succeeded in escaping.

General Niel, the new Marshal of France, is not more than fifty-seven years old, and looks much younger. He was a student of the Polytechnic School, which he quitted to study engineering at Metz. His early promotion was not extremely rapid. We find him a Lieutenant of engineers in 1827, he became a Captain in 1835, and gained his Chef-de-Bataillon's epaulette on the field of battle of Constantine (1837). He was made a Colonel in 1846, and with that rank he took part in the expedition to Rome in 1849 as head of the engineers' staff. While at Rome he was promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General, and shortly afterwards was charged with the mission of carrying the keys of the city to the Pope at Gaeta. On his return to France he became a member of the superior committees of engineering and fortifications, and was appointed director of the engineering department in the Ministry of War, and Councillor of State on extraordinary service. As a General of Division he commanded the engineers in the Baltic, and took part in the siege of Bomarsund. Subsequently he commanded the engineers in the Crimea. His reputation as a scientific officer has always stood remarkably high. He is a tall, handsome man, and very distinguished in his appearance and manners. It will be remembered that he was selected, in January last, to go to Turin to make the official demand of the Princess Clothilde's hand for Prince Napoleon.

A new plan of reconnaissance has been adopted by the French. A letter from Brescia of the 20th says—"The brothers Godard, who arrived about the same time as we did at Castenedola, were followed by two or three artillery wagons bringing all the material for an ascension. After examining the country from the top of the church tower, and studying the map of the surrounding country, they obtained permission to ascend in their balloon from a meadow in the plain of Montechiaro. Assisted by French engineers and some Piedmontese soldiers, one of the brothers filled his balloon and ascended to the height of about half a mile. He remained in the air only a few minutes, and then descending reported that he had seen nothing, and that for two or three leagues beyond Montechiaro there were no Austrians, unless they were concealed by plantations or in the inequality of the ground."

The Milan Gazette of the 21st announces that about 70,000 Austrians are concentrated in the fortresses of Mantua and Verona. "It is not possible for any one," it adds, "to leave either place without a special authorisation of the commander, and no one enters. A forced levy of all men, aged from eighteen to thirty-five, capable of bearing arms has been ordered."

At Milan the Turcos are objects of curiosity rather than of cordiality, or of those delicate little *prévenances* showered on the happy Zouave. "Poor fellows! they are reduced to play with the boys on the Piazza d'Armi, where, marshalling them with sticks, they lead them to the attack or defence of the wall and earthwork in front of the citadel. The morality of the Turcos does not stand high. They are said to need very tight handling, and not a little stick, and to be sadly prone to irregular appropriation, and even to practices approaching to what we in England call highway robbery. They are all very well on parade or in quarters with their officers' eye upon them, but after an action, or whenever discipline gets a little relaxed, certain irregular propensities develop themselves. Unless more of them are brought from Africa, the corps is hardly likely to last out this summer's campaign; at least, not if they are used as they hitherto have been. They and the Foreign Legion seem to be the *enfants perdus* of the army. If a desperate service is to be done, the chances are that they find themselves at the head of the column. The Turcos, I am told, suffered greatly at Magenta, so did the 1st Regiment of the Foreign Legion. Out of the battle of Magenta I am assured that less than 500 came unscathed. The regiment is of three battalions, and my informants, who are military, say that all three were present. On this point, however, there is perhaps some mistake, otherwise we should have to admit nearly 2000 casualties in that corps alone."

A picture of the Emperor Napoleon in camp is drawn in a letter from Montechiaro. "It is six in the evening—the Emperor comes down from his room, attended by Marshal Vaillant. The whole military household comes out and stands apart. The Emperor sits down, and a map is brought to him. Marshal Vaillant presents several papers to his Majesty. The Emperor remains alone for a moment, and rests his elbow on another chair beside him. A spy arrives, and is introduced. His Majesty listens to him, but apart. A Colonel is called; he gives ten napoleons to the spy, who seems well satisfied with his pay. Marshal Regnault de St. Jean d'Angely arrives; the Emperor converses with him. Other Generals come in. The map is called for several times. The King arrives in a carriage, and the two Monarchs shake hands. Soften down the hectoring air which some portraits give to King Victor Emmanuel, give him a plain cavalry uniform, and you will have the portrait of Victor Emmanuel. You must also darken his complexion a little, give greater distinctness to his features, so as to have the true physiognomy of a frank soldier used to the life of camps. The Emperor and he go a little apart and converse, both making cigarettes in rapid succession. The Emperor, tired of standing, leans against the shafts of a wagon close by; the conversation is lively and long. Other Generals come in. The light, though now declining, is still sufficient to allow of seeing the map, which is again brought forward. At last the King left at ten o'clock, and the Emperor dismissed his household; a quarter of an hour afterwards he retired to his apartment. The Emperor ate little. He sleeps more by day than by night. He works till one in the morning, and is called up again at three or four."

Advices received at Vienna on the 24th ult. from Trieste report that an English fleet of twenty sail had left Corfu, and was said to be cruising off Venice.

Kossuth arrived at Genoa on Wednesday week, and was received with great enthusiasm by the Hungarians there.

The Grand Duke of Baden has addressed to his army an order of the day, which concludes as follows:—"The time for peace and repose has not yet arrived, and we may have to impose on ourselves greater sacrifices, and to undergo more painful trials, than any we have hitherto borne. Hold yourselves, therefore, ready to respond to my call, and to fight under my flag, like valiant Germans, for the honour of the country."

"One of the Ministers was asked a day or two ago," says the *Times* correspondent at Paris, "whether the French Government would not, now that a great victory was obtained over the entire Austrian army, propose that a congress should assemble to settle the terms of peace between the belligerents. He replied, that the victory was not of so decisive a character as to lead to the hope that the Emperor of Austria would confess himself vanquished, and accept terms."

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 106. MEMBERS NOT IN THE CABINET.

CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF WORKS AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

THERE is a Board of Commissioners of Works, but there is only one paid Commissioner. The other Commissioners are *ex officio*, and have no salary. The Chief Commissioner, it is said, has control over all public works carried out at the expense of the State, but there are extensive exceptions. The annual expense of the department, exclusive of the works themselves, is about £26,500 a year. The salary of the Chief Commissioner is £2000. To this important office the Right Hon. Henry Fitzroy has been appointed. Mr. Fitzroy has been a Lord of the Admiralty, an Under-Secretary of the Home Department, and Chairman of Ways and Means. When Lord Eversley retired from the Speakership, Mr. Fitzroy was mentioned as his successor, perhaps only because his large experience and great knowledge in Parliamentary matters eminently qualified him for the office; but we don't manage public business in England in that way. He was of all men most fitted to be Speaker, but he was not appointed, and he is now made Chief Commissioner of Works, the duties of which he can know but little about. Mr. Fitzroy is the son of the second Lord Southampton. He married the daughter of Baron N. M. Rothschild, and is 52 years old. He is an able and industrious man, and will do his duty.

VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

Mr. James Wilson was once a retail hatter, and he is now Privy Councillor—a "Right Honourable"—and Vice-President of the Board of Trade, with a salary of £2000 a year. By his own unaided abilities and untiring industry he has mounted to this eminence. The foundation of his fortune is said to have been the establishment of the *Economist* newspaper, in 1843. After that he got into Parliament; was made Secretary of the Board of Control in 1848, and Financial Secretary to the Treasury in 1852. Mr. Wilson, in the House, is a perfect terror to all dabblers in finance, for let them vary from the facts "but in the division of the twentieth part of one poor scruple," and he is down upon them. Some have gone so far as to say that when he was Financial Secretary he was really Chancellor of the Exchequer. Be that as it may, Mr. Gladstone once designated him as "that most able officer," and it cannot be doubted then he is one of the first financiers of the age. He is now 51 years old. It is difficult to define the duties of the Board of Trade, but the cost of its management is about £40,000 annually.

THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL OF EDUCATION is the Right Honourable Robert Lowe. Mr. Lowe is also a self-made man, and owes nothing to birth and connections. He is a barrister by profession. In 1842 he went to Australia, and obtained a lucrative practice, made money, became a legislator, and in 1850 returned to England and got into Parliament. There he soon distinguished himself, and in 1855 was appointed Vice-President of the Board of Trade. The salary attached to his present office is £2000 per annum. Mr. Lowe's hair is white as snow, but he is only forty-eight years of age.

THE JUNIOR LORDS OF THE TREASURY

are Sir William Dunbar, Mr. Edward Knatchbull-Hugessen, and Mr. Bagwell—Scotch, English, and Irish—all three unknown to fame, as neither of them has been in office before. Their duties are "to make a House, keep a House, and cheer the Minister," to speak when they are required—not otherwise—and to take their salaries of £1200 a year. These are generally the duties of Junior Lords. Mr. Hugessen is, however, it is understood, to act as junior whip to Mr. Brand—to stand at the door of the House and keep watch and ward when an important division is toward, lest any of "our fellows" should escape. The duties of Junior Lords at the Treasury itself are, we apprehend, almost *nil*.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

"The Treasury" is not the place where the money is deposited, but the office where the accounts are kept. The time has long since passed when the King's treasure was deposited in vaults. As every merchant and tradesman has his banker, so has the Government. All cash received on account of the Government is paid into the Bank of England. To describe all that is done at the Treasury would require a volume. Suffice it to say that it is the counting-house of the nation, that it is there that the Estimates are made up before they are presented to the House, and here it is that warrants for expenditure are issued. The Lords of the Treasury sit here, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The expense of this department, including the salaries of the First Lord and the Chancellor, is annually about £54,000. There are three Secretaries to the Treasury, one permanent, and two who go out of office with a change of Government, viz., the Financial Secretary and the Patronage Secretary. The Financial Secretary of the new Government is Mr. Samuel Laing. This gentleman was a Railway Commissioner under Lord Dalhousie, but he has held no other public appointment. He is, however, a man of business, for he has been chairman of the Brighton Railway, and also of the Crystal Palace Company. The Financial Secretary to the Treasury is probably the hardest-worked man in the House. At the Treasury his labours are not light; and when the House is sitting he must always be in his place, or not far off, and be ready to answer every question relative to the public expenditure down to the smallest detail. Here, for example, is an honourable member who wants to know something about a lighthouse in the Scilly Isles; another, why certain works on the northern coast don't go on so fast as he thinks they ought to do; whilst an Irishman has come up, "full to the bung," with some information about some questionable expense in the building a bridge at Ballinacrae, and a Scotchman is indignant because his constituents cannot "loot" the Treasury for a bridge as well as the inhabitants of the sister isle, &c., &c. Perhaps the best Financial Secretary that ever lived was Mr. Wilson. No member ever caught him tripping; no catechiser ever found him at fault. Mr. Laing was second wrangler at Cambridge. He is forty-nine years old, and his salary is £2000 a year.

THE PATRONAGE SECRETARY

is the Honourable Henry Bouvier Brand, second son of the twentieth Baron Dacre. He succeeds the illustrious Hayter, who has now hung up his whip and retired. The duties of this official are, first, to dispose judiciously of a wide range of Treasury patronage; and, secondly, to act as chief whip to the Government at the House of Commons. No trifling duties these. On the contrary, the energy, tact, temper, and judgment required are seldom found in one individual. Mr. Brand is a quiet, gentlemanly man, with hardly the qualifications, one would think, for such a post; but if he managed the whipping for the late division, as it is said he did, he is certainly qualified for that department; for no more splendidly successful whipping than that is on record. Mr. Brand is forty-five, and his salary is also £2000 a year.

UNDER SECRETARIES.

Home Department.—The appointment of Mr. George Clive is considered to be a concession to the Radicals. Mr. Clive is by profession a barrister, but he does not practise. He has been a Poor-law Commissioner, a police magistrate, and is now Recorder of Wokingham. This is the Mr. Clive who hauled up Washington Wilks to the bar of the House for impugning the integrity of Mr. Clive's conduct on a railway committee. He is fifty-three years old. His salary is £1500 a year.

Foreign Department.—Lord Wodehouse held the same office in the Aberdeen Government, and was Minister Plenipotentiary to St. Petersburg in 1836. Age, forty-four; salary, £1500.

Colonial.—Mr. Chichester James Fortescue is said to have excited great expectations when fresh from Oxford. As a first-class man he entered Parliament in 1847. But Mr. Chichester Fortescue has not as yet fulfilled the expectations which were entertained by his friends. He was elected Lord of the Treasury in 1854, and he took the office of Under Secretary of State for the Colonies (the post which he now holds) in 1857; but neither as a Parliamentary debater nor as an

administrator has he risen above mediocrity; but, as he is only thirty-six, there is time yet before him, and here is another chance. The salary is £1500 a year.

India.—It is not Mr. Thomas Baring, as some of the papers have stated, but Mr. Thomas George Baring, who holds this office. Mr. Thomas Baring is the great City merchant, and a Conservative; Mr. Thomas George Baring is the son of Sir Francis. He has been several times a private secretary, and in 1857 became a Lord of the Admiralty. The honourable gentleman is thirty-three. What his salary is the authorities do not tell us, but it is probably £1500 a year.

CIVIL LORD OF THE ADMIRALTY.

Mr. Samuel Whitbread, son of Mr. Samuel Charles Whitbread, grandson of the noted statesman, and grand-nephew of Earl Grey the Reformer, holds this office. As the First Lord is in the House of Peers, the naval business in the House will devolve upon Mr. Whitbread and the Secretary. Hitherto the honourable gentleman has held no office other than that of private secretary to Sir George Grey. He is young in years, but has occasionally addressed the House with ease and force. His age is twenty-nine, and his salary, if he takes that of a former Lord, will be £1000 a year.

SECRETARY TO THE ADMIRALTY.

When the First Lord has a seat in the House the Secretary of the Admiralty has but little to do there but to vote; but, as the First Lord is not now in the House, the Secretary's post will be onerous and important, especially as he is the only seafaring man there connected with the Admiralty.

Lord Clarence Edward Paget, now Secretary to the Admiralty, is the son of the first Marquis of Anglesey, who lost his leg at Waterloo. The old Marquis loved the sea, and his sons inherit his taste. Lord Alfred is a noted yachtsman, and Lord Clarence is considered one of the smartest officers in the service. He was midshipman on board the Asia at Navarino, and commanded the Princess Royal in the Baltic in 1854. His Lordship, after an absence from Parliament of five years, came in for Sandwich in 1857. And ever since his return he has been urging reform in the Admiralty on the Government of the day. Now he is in office, and it remains to be seen whether he will be as zealous a Reformer as he was when in Opposition. We must, however, remember that he is not supreme here, as he was on board the Princess Royal. There he was commander, here only secretary. The noble Lord is forty-eight. His salary is £2000 a year.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

In the Derby Government the Attorney-General, Sir Fitzroy Kelly, though the senior law officer, seldom spoke, but left the talking to be done by Sir Hugh Cairns, the Solicitor-General; but in the present Government Mr. Attorney-General, Sir Richard Bethell, will, of course, take the lead, and the Solicitor-General, Sir Henry Keating, will do the silent; for wherever Sir Richard is, in all legal matters, he must be supreme—not merely without a rival, but without a second. This extraordinary man, before he was eighteen, was first in classics and second in mathematics at Oxford; and his career has been from then till now a brilliant success. He was called to the bar in 1823, made Queen's Counsel in 1840, Solicitor-General in 1852, and Attorney-General in 1856. He has been Vice-Chancellor of the County Palatine of Lancaster, and is now standing Counsel for his Alma Mater. When the present Government came into office it was expected that he would be Lord Chancellor; but there was a feud between Palmerston and Russell—Palmerston was for Bethell, Russell for Sir John Romilly—and so to prevent a rupture each withdrew his man, and agreed to appoint Lord Campbell—therefore Sir Richard must bide his time. Meanwhile he can accumulate more wealth to support the peerage which inevitably awaits him, and will surely come if life be spared. Sir Richard is fifty-nine years old. What the salary, if there be any, of Attorney-General is we know not, but the emoluments of the office are very great no doubt.

THE SOLICITOR-GENERAL

is Sir Henry Singer Keating, of whom little need be said. He was Solicitor-General in the last Palmerston Government, but took very little part in the debates. He is fifty-five years old, and has great emoluments, but what they amount to is a secret. It is a misfortune to Sir Henry that he is placed near such a luminary as Sir Richard Bethell. A brighter star than Sir Henry would in such proximity "pale its ineffectual fire."

ATTORNEY-GENERAL FOR IRELAND.

The Right Honourable John David Fitzgerald is an able, fluent, and pertinacious debater; and sometimes talks with more ability than wisdom as an official. He was made Solicitor-General in 1855, and Attorney-General in 1856. He is but forty-four years old, according to Dod, though he looks older. He will, probably, some day, if he has luck and discretion, attain to a judgeship, or perhaps the Irish woolsack. Nothing is known about the emoluments of this office.

SOLICITOR-GENERAL FOR IRELAND.

Mr. Serjeant Deasy is new to office, and has only been four years in the House. Like all Irishmen, he can speak eloquently; and when he first spoke it was said that we had got an additional power in the House; but it did not turn out so. Mr. Deasy is an average Irish speaker, nothing more. His age is not known to us, nor do we know anything of the profits of the office.

THE LORD ADVOCATE OF SCOTLAND

(a sort of Scotch Attorney-General) is Mr. James Moncreiff. He held the same office under Palmerston before. He is a good speaker within his own range of topics, and is generally considered an able man. He is forty-eight years old; but his emoluments, like those of all the law officers of the Crown, are amongst the arcana of the law.

THE JUDGE ADVOCATE-GENERAL

presides over courts-martial. He has not, therefore, we apprehend, much to do, though he takes the respectable sum of £2000 a year. Mr. Thomas Emerson Headlam has been appointed to this office. Mr. Headlam is a Radical, and his appointment is held to be a concession to the "broad-basis" principle. He is a barrister of course. His age is forty-six.

SECRETARY TO THE POOR-LAW BOARD.

As this office has sometimes been held by a whip of the House, the official duties cannot be onerous. The Permanent Secretary probably does the work at the office, and the Government man that at the House, where, as the President has a seat, there is, excepting to vote, *nil*. The Estimates tell us that one Secretary has £1500 a year, and the other £1000; probably the Permanent Secretary has the larger sum. Mr. Charles Gilpin, on the "broad-basis" principle, has been named to the present office. Mr. Charles Gilpin is a Quaker, and, we fancy, the first Quaker member of a Government that England has seen. George Fox, when he founded the Society of Friends, little dreamed of this. Mr. Gilpin was formerly a bookseller in Bishopsgate-street. He is forty-four years old.

THE PARK CHAIR GRIEVANCE.—An unhappy wight, who with a thousand others has been unjustly imputed of pennies by the guardians of the chairs in Rotten-row, writes to the *Times* as follows:—"I walked into the park about 11 a.m., and sat down in a wire armchair. A collector instantly claimed and obtained from me twopence. Some ladies wishing to sit together, to accommodate them I gave up my armchair to them, and seated myself in a wooden chair close by. Another collector instantly stepped up and claimed another penny. He had no connection with the former collector; knew nothing about the twopence I had just paid him; the wooden chairs belonged to a different proprietor altogether, &c. Rather sulkily, I fear, I handed over my third penny; the man, however, soon declared me for my sulkiness, for he watched me when I rose to speak to a friend on horseback at the rails, and when I resumed my seat he claimed from me a fourth penny. I remonstrated, but he somewhat insolently declared that if I rose from my chair twenty times he had a right to an additional penny for every fresh session."

Imperial Parliament.

MONDAY, JUNE 27.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House sat on Monday, pursuant to adjournment, and forwarded a few private bills through their pending stages of progress. On rising, after a brief sitting, their Lordships adjourned until Thursday.

THURSDAY, JUNE 30.

HOUSE OF LORDS.**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.**

EARL GRANVILLE entered into a statement respecting the intentions of the Government during the present Session, which was substantially the same as that made in the House of Commons by Lord Palmerston.

ITALY.

The Duke of RUTLAND, in reference to the war in Italy, said that it was to be attributed to the ambitious enterprise of the King of Sardinia. He eulogised the zeal and talent displayed by the late Ministry in endeavouring to preserve peace, and, when that failed, in keeping England out of war.

The Earl of MALMFSBURY vindicated the late Government from some criticisms made upon them in reference to the Italian war by the opponents of that Government.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE said the present Government would not only continue, but, probably, would increase, the measures of their predecessors with respect to the national defences.

After some remarks from Lord HOWDEN the matter dropped, and their Lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

NEW MEMBERS.—Lord Palmerston, Lord John Russell, Sir G. C. Lewis, Sir G. Grey, Sir C. Wood, Sir R. Bethell, Sir William Dundas, Mr. Cardwell, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Hugessen, Mr. Fitroy, Mr. Whitbread, Sir H. Keating, Mr. Lowe, Mr. S. Herbert, and Mr. Headlam took the oaths and their seats on their re-election after their acceptance of office in the new Ministry.

NEW WRITS.—Mr. BRAND moved for new writs for Northampton, in the room of Mr. V. Smith, now Lord Lyveden; for Wicklow county, in the room of Lord Proby, who has accepted the office of Comptroller of the Household; for Lichfield, in the room of Lord A. Paget, who has accepted the office of Chief Equerry to her Majesty; and for the western division of the county of Gloucester, in the room of Colonel Kingscote, who has accepted the office of Groom in Waiting.

MEASURES OF THE GOVERNMENT.

In reply to a question from Mr. Brady, Lord PALMERSTON said that the question of legislating upon the relations of landlord and tenant in Ireland would be most carefully considered by the law officers of the Crown and by the Government. The noble Lord then stated that on the failure of Lord Granville to form an Administration he had addressed himself to the task with Lord John Russell, with whom he had a previous agreement for mutual co-operation. His noble friend undertook the direction of Foreign Affairs, and he believed they had assembled round them colleagues eminent for their station and knowledge of public affairs whom they might confidently present to the country as an Administration worthy of its confidence. There were two great questions before them at the present moment—one the conduct of our foreign affairs, the other the amendment of the law relating to the representation of the people. With respect to our foreign relations the intention of the Government was to follow the course chalked out for them by their predecessors, to observe a strict neutrality, reserving themselves for an opportunity which might offer of tendering their good offices to procure a restoration of the blessings of peace. This, however, could not be done until the march of events might show that their good offices would be acceptable. With respect to a Reform Bill, it would be trifling with a measure of such importance to bring it forward at the present time of the year, when in August and September they could only expect very thin Houses. The Government, therefore, did not propose to bring in a Reform Bill during the present Session, but to ask the country to be content with the assurance that it would be brought in early next Session. There were matters requiring consideration as to when the next Session would be held, but in the course of the Session they would state the course which in that respect it would be their object to pursue.

After some observations from Sir C. Napier, which the Speaker said were quite irregular,

The matter dropped.

CRIMINAL LAW.—Mr. Whiteside obtained leave to bring in bills to consolidate the criminal statute law of England and Ireland.

GAS COMPANIES.—Sir J. Shelley obtained leave to bring in a bill to regulate the proceedings of gas companies and others supplying the metropolis with gas.

SUPPLY.—The House then went into a Committee of Supply, and Mr. Massey was elected to the chair. A motion was agreed to that a supply be granted to her Majesty, after which the House resumed. Mr. BRAND moved a new writ for Marylebone, in the room of Sir B. Hall, now Lord Lhanover.

MINISTERS ON THE PLATFORM.

THE new elections have called the new Government to the platform, and we have had a round of Ministerial speeches this week. We need not notice them all, for few have interest, and there is but one tone on the two or three subjects which occupy public attention. The speech of

LORD JOHN RUSSELL

gives the pitch. On the subject of the war he said:—

I have told you on former occasions what, as I conceived, was the deepest cause of the present war—that it was not the ambition of one man, or of two men, or of three men; but that it was the grievous misgovernment of Italy, which had lasted for forty years, and which the Italian people had at various times endeavoured to throw off. I should have been happy had that which I thought perfectly possible been accomplished—had the Powers of Italy, together with France and Austria, been able to make an amicable arrangement upon the subject. That was not the case; and these three Powers—Austria, France, and Sardinia—are now engaged in a bloody and destructive war. We may hope that the moderation of the successful party and the wisdom of the defeated party may lead in no long time to an honourable and satisfactory peace; but our duty is to continue in the path of neutrality, which the whole country has determined to adopt. If, however, that moderation and that wisdom should not be manifested, it is impossible to say how far this war may extend, and what Powers may take part in it. It therefore behoves this country, for her own security, for the defence of her own honour and her own interests, not to neglect her Navy or her Army, but to be prepared for any contingencies that may arise; and I will repeat here what I said in the House of Commons—that I shall at all times be willing to pay my tribute of applause to the late First Lord of the Admiralty (Sir J. Pakington), and to the Board which served with him, for the energetic exertions which they made to place the Navy in an effective condition. Such being the state of foreign affairs, then, the first duty incumbent upon us is vigilance. We must watch every move that takes place, and consider what bearing it may have on the future. In the next place, whenever the time shall arrive—and I hope it may soon arrive—when the belligerents may be disposed to terminate this destructive contest, it will then be the business of this country to give such counsels as may lead to a termination of the war honourable to all parties, and as may afford better hopes for the independence and liberties of Italy. Such is, in short, the only explanation I can give you with regard to our foreign policy.

On the subject of Reform Lord John was very shy. He said:—

I have always told you that, in my opinion, an extension of the franchise—the admission of greater numbers of the people to the enjoyment of that franchise—would strengthen the institutions of the country by placing them upon a broader and safer foundation. How far that extension should go, in what degree representation should be transferred from smaller places to large communities, must be the subject of anxious deliberation with the Cabinet. I believe they will consider that question fairly; and I trust the measure they may produce will be satisfactory to the country. I cannot at the present time enter into any further development of the policy of the Government.

This pledges the noble Lord to very little.

SIR GEORGE GREY

hoped, and trusted, and believed that at the earliest period consistently with their duty to the country the Government would be prepared to deal with the question of Parliamentary Reform. He agreed with his colleagues and the country generally that the first duty of the Government must be to endeavour to keep this country from any participation in the war, and not to take any part in the warlike proceedings now agitating Europe, unless such a course was imperatively demanded by a consideration of the honour and the clear interests of this country.

SIR CHARLES WOOD,
Secretary of State for India, elicited many signs of disapproval from his auditory by saying—

I don't believe it is possible to pass a Reform Bill during the present Session of Parliament. We are now, owing to delays for which we are not accountable, beginning a Session on the 1st of July which usually begins early in February. The whole of the Estimates are to be voted, the Budget and financial measures to be proposed; and when I tell you that the deficiency is nearer £5,000,000 than £4,000,000—that is the legacy that our predecessors have left to us, that is the deficiency which they have created, and which we have to make good—you will, I think, admit that it is no slight task we have to undertake, and that it will require some time for discussion. It will probably be about the end of August before we can have completed the Estimates and financial business of the Session. I do not think that it will be easy to induce the House to begin upon a Reform Bill on the 1st of September. It must be the first business to be undertaken on our reassembling; but before we separate I don't believe it can be performed.

The greater part of Sir Charles's speech was directed against the late Government. "When Lord Palmerston's Government was dismissed from power," said he, "we left peace in Europe—we find war. We left a flourishing revenue, with a surplus—we find a very large deficiency." Sir Charles did not explain how Lord Derby caused the war, nor that the "deficiency" might be occasioned by an expenditure necessary for the preservation of the Navy.

SIR GEORGE CORNEWALL LEWIS'S SPEECH

was also chiefly a dissection of the deceased Government. Only a few words were devoted to the war and Reform. Sir George hoped that, should the late battle "lead to any negotiations with the Austrian Government, a spirit of moderation may be evinced by the conquerors and a spirit of reasonableness by the conquered; and that the result of such negotiations may be to place the Government of the Italian provinces in a more satisfactory and less afflicting position than we have witnessed for some years past. As to Reform, I can only say I feel satisfied the present Government will, at the earliest time which may be consistent with the proper conduct of public business, propose to Parliament a measure of Parliamentary Reform which they will be able to offer upon their own responsibility, and which I feel confident will not be founded upon the same principles as that of the late Government—viz., of taking back with one hand what you appear to give with the other."

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND THE SOLICITOR-GENERAL both promised large measures of legal reform. Sir Richard Bethel, hinted that he had accepted office at the sacrifice of a claim to a still higher one, but one in which he should be less useful to the Government. Sir Richard expressed himself strongly in favour of equalising the poor rate.

MR. MILNER GIBSON.

Mr. Gibson addressed a crowded meeting at Ashton-under-Lyne. In the course of his speech he said:—

I wish it had so happened that Mr. Cobden could have been accompanied by Mr. Bright into the Cabinet, that we might all three have been there to work to carry out those principles which we have consistently professed. But there are those who say that none of us should have joined the Government, and especially this Government. My answer to those gentlemen is that it is of no use to complain about Governments being exclusive and being aristocratic if when they open the door you won't enter. Having been invited to be a member of this Administration, acting for myself, and with the full belief that I shall meet the approval of my constituents, I have accepted the invitation. Having worked for the Liberal cause out of the Government, I am now prepared to try my hand in the Government. It is said that there have been great differences between Lord Palmerston and myself, that there have been great differences between the friends of the late Sir R. Peel and Lord Palmerston, and differences between Lord J. Russell and others in the Administration. Well, suppose there have been. Can you tell me of any Government that ever was formed, or was ever likely to be formed, into which a number of men could be brought who were exactly as one? There always have been differences, but it is the business of a Government, knowing beforehand that there may be differences of degree—not fundamental differences in principle—to endeavour to co-operate for the public good, not to make any unworthy surrender of any vital principle; and, on the other hand, not to think that any man should stand out to the exact letter of everything he believes, but, by union and co-operation, to endeavour to give effect, as far as possible, to the general principles of the party who have placed him in the administration of affairs.

Then we come to Mr. Gibson's ideas on peace and war:—

I believe it to be the policy of this Government to preserve peace, and to maintain a strict and impartial neutrality. I am one of those who desire especially to cultivate friendly relations with all foreign Powers, maintaining, at the same time, our own independence and dignity; but above all am I desirous that it should be no fault of ours that there is not a cordial and friendly understanding with our nearest neighbour, France. Now, there are men who fancy that it is necessary to, as it were, foment national hatreds and to encourage the idea that we have some natural enemies in the world. I hold no such doctrine. There are those who think that by keeping us always in fighting condition, and in a state of hatred of foreigners, we are cherishing in this country a national and patriotic spirit. I demur altogether to that doctrine. I hold to the maxim that the true policy of England is one of justice and fair dealing with all countries, and that the same rules of justice and of right should apply to our conduct as a nation that apply to the conduct of an individual among his fellow-countrymen. I am not, as I have been charged, a friend of peace in the sense that I would not vindicate to the utmost of my power and means the rights and independence of our own country; but I am against a system of continually giving rise to alarm, and making a display of suspicion, and imputing intentions to others of the existence of which we have no proof, and pursuing a course of unjust allegation respecting foreign Powers which must make it extremely difficult for any country to maintain friendly relations with France or with any other State. . . . I may be right, or I may be wrong, as to the policy of the Russian war, but there can be no doubt that the popularity of that war in this country when it was undertaken made it extremely difficult for any Minister then in power to carry out those negotiations which were calculated to maintain peace. It was the same at the peace of Amiens. And so it may be now; and unless the public will that England shall be neutral, and shall be maintained at peace, there is no telling what any Government may be driven to by the force of circumstances that may arise during this war. We are a constitutional people. Our Government is not like the Governments that exist in parts of Europe, mere Governments controlled by the will of some one man, or by armies and by navies. Ours is a Government, if the people choose to exert themselves, that must be controlled by public opinion, and I say in their hands will rest ultimately such important questions as the foreign policy of this nation; it will be for them to decide whether it be wise, or whether it be not, at any particular period, for this country to involve itself in foreign complications.

As to Reform, Mr. Gibson said the Government, when they shall have had the opportunity of considering the question of Reform, will agree upon a measure which will be sound as far as it goes, which will have nothing retrograde in its character, and which, if it do not accomplish all that ardent Reformers may desire, will do what it does thoroughly, and will give increased power to the people.

LORD PALMERSTON AND THE WAR IN ITALY.

NINETY-FIVE ministers, composing the Conference of the Annual Assembly of the Independents for the counties of Cardigan, Pembroke, and Carmarthen, addressed a memorial to Lord Palmerston entreating him to preserve the neutrality of England. His secretary replied as follows:—

I am desired by Lord Palmerston to acknowledge the receipt of the memorial from the annual assembly of the Independents for the counties of Cardigan, Pembroke, and Carmarthen, urging the necessity of non-intervention on the part of this country in the war between France, Sardinia, and Austria, and to inform you that her Majesty's Government have no intention of advising her Majesty to take part in the present war, and that they do not foresee the probability of any events that would lead them to depart from the policy of neutrality.

LORD JOHN'S VIEWS ON THE BALLOT.

A COMMITTEE of Liberal electors of the City favourable to the Ballot was formed for the purpose of communicating with Lord John Russell on the question of the Ballot, pending his re-election for the City. These gentlemen solicited his Lordship "to look again at the whole question of the Ballot with reference to recent events, and to consider whether the apprehended evils which hitherto, in your opinion, have

overbalanced the advantages of the Ballot are great enough to prevent an experiment being made whether the Ballot will act as a preventive against the enormous moral evils with which the late elections were attended." The gentlemen obtained the following reply:—"Lord John Russell continues to be of opinion that the evils to which, in his view, the Ballot would give rise would prove greater than those which at present exist."

THE NEW ELECTIONS.

MOST of the re-elections consequent upon the change of Government have taken place, among them that of Lord John Russell for the City. Mr. Gibson was returned for Ashton without opposition, and so was Mr. Cardwell at Oxford, Sir George Grey at Morpeth, Sir Charles Wood at Halifax, Mr. Sidney Herbert at South Wilts, Sir R. Bethell at Wolverhampton, Sir H. Keating at Reading, Mr. J. Wilson at Devonport, Mr. Lowe at Calne, Sir G. C. Lewis at Radnor, and Mr. Hugessen at Sandwich. Lord Palmerston was formally re-elected for Tiverton, his presence having been dispensed with. At Bedford Mr. Whitbread was opposed by Captain Polhill Turner unsuccessfully. At Newcastle Mr. Headlam was opposed by two candidates—by Mr. Cuthbert on the Tory side and Mr. Taylor on the side of Democracy. Mr. Headlam was returned. No opposition was expected at Clonmel to Mr. John Bagwell, the new Irish Lord of the Treasury. Lord Farnborough, it may almost be predicted, will fill the seat occupied by Lord Lhanover. The nomination for the Oxford University was, as is the custom, a matter of mere form, and the polling for Gladstone and Chandos was to conclude on Friday. The constituency is between 3000 and 4000, scattered all over the country.

THE BATTLE OF MAGENTA.

In the detailed account of the battle of Magenta, which appeared in No. 220 of the *Illustrated Times*, full particulars will be found of this most desperate conflict. The illustrations on the following pages represent two important episodes of the battle. The one shows the attack by the French Imperial Guard and Zouaves on the village of Ponte di Magenta, which the French troops had scarcely entered when a loud explosion was heard, and from the windows of every house Austrian soldiers fired upon the Zouaves of the Guard who led the assault. All the large houses and also the garden walls were pierced for musketry, in addition to which a murderous fire from several guns was kept up against the French. The Zouaves, nevertheless, dashed forward, the Austrians vainly endeavouring to stay their progress yard by yard. They stormed the houses which were obstinately defended by a desperate garrison, who saw they had no means of retreat and that they must expect no quarter. The fight now became fierce in the extreme. The houses taken one minute were lost the next, and thus matters continued until there was scarcely an Austrian left who was capable of continuing the defence. The road was now clear, and Generals Canrobert and Niel, who had occupied the rear, advanced to attack the retreating columns of the enemy, which they routed and cut up to a fearful extent. This is the scene depicted in our large Engraving. The Austrians made a last attempt to stand, but it was only for a brief period. M'Mahon, who had by this time advanced, directed the whole of his guns upon the broken ranks, and in a few minutes the Austrians were flying helter-skelter in every direction. The carnage was fearful, for at one time upwards of forty guns were firing grape into the flying enemy.

"The brunt of the action," writes our own correspondent, "was between the Canal Natiglio Grande and the village of Magenta, on a plateau about a mile and a half in width. This plateau is, or was, thickly covered with vines, growing amidst fields of corn; and so thoroughly is the ground economised that it must have been difficult to penetrate through the close trellis-work formed by them. As far as the wheat is concerned, not a vestige remains beyond the straw trodden into the earth, while the vines are twisted and distorted as though they had writhed in the grasp of men who clutched them in the last agonies of death. At almost every step the foot sinks into the blood-clotted soil, and, look on which side you will, revolting evidence meets the eye of the fearful carnage of which the place had so recently been the scene. Here and there mounds, surmounted by a rude wooden cross, mark the spot where hundreds of dead lay heaped together, and no doubt the grapes of next year will produce a redder and a richer wine. An officer of the Chasseurs de Vincennes who had taken part in the action accompanied me over the field of battle. He repeatedly called my attention to some spot where the ground had so recently been disputed inch by inch, where the bayonet had been crossed and recrossed, and where the soddened freshly-turned earth, but loosely raked together, told of numbers calmly resting after the fierceness of the struggle. Well might the soldiers observe, as they were cheered on their march by the people, 'On nous acclame, paroisse nous allons à l'abattoir!' They cheer us because we are going to the shambles."

"Of the numbers who fell during the day there have been many conflicting statements; here are the returns given me by the Syndic of Magenta, under whose direction the dead were sought for and buried—10,000 Austrians and 4000 French. Where the great loss to the Austrians occurred was in the village. Masses of them barred themselves in the houses and fought with desperation, and as each house was forced by the enraged soldiers, whose officers had been picked off in the streets, scarcely a man within escaped their vengeance. I had one narrow courtyard pointed out to me where five hundred Tudeschi who refused to surrender fell heaped one on the other."

"On the market-place many of the Austrian Generals were wounded. Guylai had here two horses shot under him. All those whom I have met who were present agreed in saying that the latter set a most brilliant example to his troops. As for prisoners, some were found concealed in the neighbourhood on the day of my visit; and I learn there are many fugitives still wandering about the country. The official statement of those taken amounts to 7000, a great portion of whom are Italians and others who prefer to be well out of it."

THE ENTRY INTO MILAN.

THE Emperor Napoleon and the King of Sardinia entered the city of Milan at eight o'clock on the morning of the 8th of June. It would have been a pardonable vanity if the two Sovereigns had made their triumphal entry into the Italian capital of the enemy with all the pomp which an entry like this admitted of. Not only, however, was no advantage taken of such an opportunity, but everything like showing-off was studiously avoided. No troops preceded them giving notice beforehand that the moment of their arrival was approaching. There were no splendid uniforms or gaudy carriages. It was simply the entry of two commanders at the head of a body of their troops. They came from the last station, Bobbi, which is about three leagues distant, dusty and hot; a small body of cavalry and Guides preceded and closed up the rear; in the midst of the two Sovereigns, the King of Sardinia in the middle of the road, and the Emperor to his right, both followed by their staff. The news of their arrival spread with the quickness of lightning, and was made patent by one frantic shout of joy; the thousands who were already thronging the streets began with one impulse to hurry in the direction from which the shout first arose. "The scene itself," writes a correspondent, "while the two Sovereigns actually passed, it is impossible to describe. Imagine the madness of enthusiasm, the whole heart of a people poured out before those who had delivered it from long thraldom. Not an eye remained tearless, and proud must have been the moment for both Sovereigns. One such moment is almost sufficient to repay for all the cares, sacrifices, and risks, without which a great work like theirs cannot be accomplished, and necessary, too, are such moments, for they give strength for new efforts. All the outward decorations paled before the greeting of the people; the flowers, so long prepared for the occasion, were almost forgotten in the emotion of the moment, and fell often long before those had passed for whom they had been intended. For the first time I saw emotion pierce through that mysterious and impenetrable countenance of the Emperor—he would have been more than a man had it been otherwise."



THE BATTLE OF MAGENTA.—FROM A SKETCH BY M. MULLI.



ATTACK UPON THE HOUSES OF PONTE-NUOVO DI MAGENTA BY THE FRENCH IMPERIAL GUARD.



ENTRY OF THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH AND THE KING OF SARDINIA INTO MILAN.—(FROM A SKETCH BY M. MOULLIN.)

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, JULY 2, 1859.

HORSE GUARDS PATRONAGE.

The public, we suspect, agrees very decidedly with Chief Justice Cockburn in pronouncing the "Queen v. Marshall and Others" a case of great importance. The judgment of the full Court will be awaited with general curiosity; and, meanwhile, as the facts are well ascertained, there can be no harm in recalling and discussing them with an eye to the future welfare of the British Army.

When the question of "purchase" has come in our way, we have generally been cautious in dealing with it. There are difficulties in all methods of arranging promotion; and, in a service where there are many representatives of the wealthier classes, purchase is not only convenient to them, but helps to clear the way for less lucky people. Promotion does not go purely by merit anywhere; not even at the Bar (as Mr. Edwin James seemed in his speech to imply), where the illiterate and underbred attorney kindred are daily pushing, by dint of connection, over the heads of educated gentlemen. But, while hesitating to propose wholesale changes, we have constantly supported every practical bit of improvement that has been proposed in the Army system; and several of these have come, we believe, from the Duke of Cambridge himself. What, then, are we to think of the great army-tailor and army-agent revelations of the recent trial, showing how snips and swindlers have the virtual power of disposing of commissions for money? What, but that there must be some secret work going on—some back-stairs bribery—in the highest degree infamous and pernicious? General analogy, of course, induces one to assume that such cases are not solitary. Only a certain proportion of any crimes and blunders is found out, either in matters of government or elsewhere. Thus, the Duke of Wellington used often to say that he could not tell all he knew about the public affairs of his time: the scandal would be too great. No doubt, then (though, just for the moment, people will be extra cautious), other young Cunninghams have friends manoeuvring to get them commissions; other tailors are seeking for fat geese; other Pughs are intriguing; other Steinbachs are mysteriously communicating with men like these. The world cannot be too vividly interested in the affair; for its interest will stir up the Horse Guards to inquiry, and from inquiry will come caution and reform.

It is in the mystery of the affair that its piquancy lies. Cunningham's friends applied for a commission for him on general grounds of family service; they could not get it. Money was paid into a certain place, and the commission came. That is perfectly clear, so far; and it is further ascertained how a good deal of the money was shared. But where is the link that connects the commission with the money? There is the puzzle. We know that it exists, but we cannot see it. It is like the hitch in the Atlantic cable. Nothing can be more easy than to demonstrate its existence; but it is a difficult matter to pitch upon the place.

There is a great deal of shabby and sordid administration of patronage in this country, and not less assuredly in State patronage than in private establishments. Every day, probably, some claim on the justice or generosity of persons in power is pushed aside to make room for the perpetration of a job. Suppose, in the case before us, that the few hundreds had not been forthcoming on the part of Mr. Cunningham's "friends," who will venture to say that, in spite of his military pedigree, he would have got the appointment? Of course, the high authorities say it was given on his claims; and this is so far true; but the money, somehow or other, helped to make the claims known. How it did this is the Horse Guards business, but the fact is unquestionable.

You may twist and turn over the job as you will,
But the scent of corruption will cling to it still.

There is a sort of impression among old military foggies—something at once odorous of pipeclay and aristocracy—that the Army ought, more than any other branches of the public service, to be sacred from criticism. But this is a total misapprehension, arising from an ignorance of our history and Constitution. The Army has never stood in the same relation to the country here as in Austria or France. The more sharply it is looked after the better; and we trust that, before the case of the "Queen v. Marshall and Others" is formally and finally disposed of, the authorities will be able to show us that they have discovered the source of such abuses, and know how to get rid of them.

LORD CLYDE AND THE INDIAN COMMISSIONNARIA.—The *Gazette* of Tuesday contains a general order of the Governor-General of India, calling attention to a letter of Lord Clyde, in which the medical and commissariat departments of the Indian army are warmly recommended to the notice of the Government on account of the services which they performed throughout the late trying crisis. The Commander-in-Chief especially mentions the services of Dr. Forsyth, Dr. Linton, Colonel Ramsay, and Colonel Thompson. The Governor-General presents these and the others with the cordial thanks of the Government of India, but it may be expected that more substantial marks of favour will be awarded them. Good commissariat and medical officers cannot be too highly valued.

ATTEMPTED MURDER BY A NEGRO.—John Bardore, the negro who made so savage an assault on a policeman who endeavoured to apprehend him, has been committed for trial. He alleges in his defence that he was brought to England as a slave by a certain Captain Capello; and that Captain Capello wanted to sell him. So he shut himself up, and, when the constable endeavoured to seize him, only used his knife in self-defence.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE Queen held a levee in St. James's Palace on Saturday afternoon. On Wednesday her Majesty gave a State ball to a party of 2000. Tuesday was the twenty-first anniversary of her Majesty's coronation.

THE QUEEN has presented 250 guineas to the funds of the British Orphan Asylum, Clapham-rise, in order that her Royal Highness the Prince of Wales may have the privilege of a life presentation to that institution, where the orphans of those reduced from affluence to poverty are boarded, clothed, and educated from 7 to 15 years of age.

THE PRINCE OF WALES HAS RETURNED. He arrived at Spithead on Saturday, on board the Royal yacht Osborne, and proceeded to London a few hours after.

ABOUT 6000 OF THE WORKING CLASSES living in the parish of Christ Church, Blackfriars, accompanied the Rector, the Rev. Joseph Brown, to Brighton, on Monday; he entertained them to tea.

LIEUTENANT R. C. W. MILWARD, Adjutant of Hodson's Horse, has been recommended by Lord Clyde for the Victoria Cross for distinguished gallantry. Dr. Temple, head master of Rugby, gave a school holiday "in honour of the youngest Victoria Cross and Adjutant in the army being a Ruegan."

THE HON. VERNON SMITH, on being called to the Upper House, receives the title of Lord Lyveden, after the name of an ancient manor on his estate in Northamptonshire. The title taken by Sir Benjamin Hall is that of "Llanover," which is the name of his principal residence in the county of Monmouth.

THE AFFAIRS OF MR. HUDSON, the secretary of the Royal Agricultural Society, are in confusion. A deficiency amounting to £1930 (arising since the Chelmsford meeting) has been discovered.

THE EARL OF CARLISLE will not arrive in Ireland for three weeks, according to the *Freeman's Journal*.

MR. AYRTON, the member for the Tower Hamlets, will, at a very early period of the Session, bring forward a resolution on the subject of the paper-duty.

THE HEADS OF THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY propose to invite Lord Derby to a grand banquet at the St. James's Hall, to testify their sense of the vigour and ability with which he conducted his Administration.

HARVEST PROSPECTS IN CANADA are reported to be most excellent. A much larger extent of land has been sown this year than in any previous one.

A GOOD-LOOKING IRISH GIRL, named Curran, enlisted last week at Liverpool in the 16th Rifles. It was some time ere her sex was discovered, and then her services were dispensed with. Her object in joining the regiment was to enjoy the society of her brother, who is one of the privates.

A MERCHANT was robbed of £1300 on the Manchester Exchange last week. The money was in notes, the numbers of which are known.

A YOUNG WOMAN, named Harriet Courte, hanged herself for love last week at Widdon, North Law. She had conceived a great affection for a young man who would have nothing to do with her.

MR. BLACKBURN (of Ellis and Blackburn's Reports) is to be the new Puisne Judge.

THE "DAILY NEWS" is of opinion that "the Emperor of the French, whose carpet strategy was the jest of the saloons of Vienna a month ago, is displaying a genius for war which should stir up Europe to remove the causes which keep open a field for their exercise." We had better give up Malta at once, then.

COLONELS LEPROY AND OWEN left Malta on the 13th for Corfu, to see that the fortifications of that island are placed in an efficient state of defence.

THE MARCHIONESS OF SLIGO died at an early hour on Sunday morning. The Marchioness was confined a few days previously. She was the Marquis's second wife, and was only married in the summer of last year.

GENERAL GUNKEL, OF THE DUCHESS ARMY, appealed some days ago to the Supreme Court of Holland, sitting at the Hague, against the condemnation to death passed on him by the Criminal Court for poisoning; but the Court rejected the appeal.

HER MAJESTY AND THE ROYAL FAMILY went into mourning on Monday, for week, for the late Dowager Grand Duchess of Saxe-Weimar, maternal grandmother to the Prince Frederick William of Prussia. The Royal family propose to leave Buckingham Palace on the 4th instant, to take up their summer residence at Osborne.

THE EARL OF TANKERVILLE expired on Saturday morning after a very protracted illness.

AN OLD MAN belonging to a colliery near Rhosllaner-chrugog lost himself in the hills, and was only found after an absence of ten days by a beom-maker on a lonely part of the mountain called Mynydd Cerigwynion. When discovered he was eating grass and heath.

THE OFFICIAL MANAGER of the Tipperary Bank has given notice that a further dividend of 1s. 6d. in the pound will be payable to the unfortunate creditors of the Tipperary Bank on and after the 27th inst.

THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD will confer the honorary degree of D.C.L. on Sir J. Lawrence at the approaching commemoration, we understand.

A TESTIMONIAL IS TO BE PRESENTED TO MR. CHARLES KEAN on Wednesday, the 20th. The presentation is to be made on the occasion of a grand banquet, at which the Earl of Carlisle is to preside. The committee comprises two dukes, one marquis, seven earls, two viscounts, five lords, and nearly a score of right honourables and men of mark, whose object is "to mark their sense of the distinguished talent of their old schoolfellow." Mr. Kean was educated at Eton.

AN INFLUENTIAL DEPUTATION FROM CANADA, including the Hon. Henry Smith, Speaker of the Commons of Canada, and the Mayor of Quebec, had an audience of the Queen, and presented a petition soliciting her Majesty to be present at the inauguration of the Victoria Bridge next year. Her Majesty expressed herself much pleased with the address, and it is thought that she will comply with the request.

FOUR PERSONS WERE DROWNED in Southampton Water on Thursday week by the capsizing of a wherry.

TO DISCOURAGE THE SENDING OF COIN BY POST, instructions have been issued to the officials at the chief district and branch offices to purchase postage-stamps from the public, joined together in sheets or strips, proving they are not soiled or disfigured. The following is the scale:—£1 worth, 1s. 4½d.; 10s., 9s. 8d.; 5s., 4s. 10d.; 2s. 6d., 2s. 5d.; 1s., 1½d.; 5d., 5½d.

THE THUNDERSTORM OF SUNDAY did great mischief in the suburban districts south of the Thames. At Clapham a man (a groom) was killed. His clothes were rent to tatters, his face was quite black, and the grass for some distance about him was burnt and blackened. Several other persons were struck, but not fatally.

THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF EDINBURGH held an extraordinary meeting lately, to consider "the allegations against the character and conduct of Dr. John Godfrey, a non-resident fellow of that body, as contained in the newspaper reports of recent trials in which he figured."

THE SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH COMPANY's new cable between Boulogne and Folkestone has been successfully submerged. The cable is the largest and strongest yet constructed. It contains six conducting wires; the weight per mile amounts to just upon ten tons.

THERE IS NO TRUTH IN THE REPORT that the work in the dockyards has been relaxed. In the course of last month certain artificers were put on extra hours, with the view of hastening the completion of works in progress, but, additional artificers having since been entered for that purpose, the order to work extra hours has been cancelled.

A LABOURER OF TEMPLE EWING, near Dover, found a letter-bag dropped from a mail-cart. The man restored the bag, which contained a banker's parcel worth about six thousand pounds, to the Post authorities, and was rewarded with ten shillings and sixpence!

THE 105TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER of the Society of Arts was given on Tuesday evening at St. James's Hall—the Right Hon. Lord Napier in the chair.

AN UNMARRIED WOMAN, named Sarah Hughes, a native of Sedgley, near Dudley, died on Saturday at the great age of 113 years. She had long been an inmate of Sedgley workhouse, and was there looked upon as "a good praying and consoling creature." Her health was good to the very last. While in the workhouse she knitted without any aid, though entirely blind, all the stockings for the paupers, numbering nearly 200.

THE *Sentinel de Jura*, which published several interesting letters from the seat of war, thus announces the death of its correspondent:—"We must here drop tear to the memory of Lieut. Bouvier, of the grenadiers of the Guard. He promised us an account of the battle of Magenta, but an Australian ball cut short his career.

A LETTER FROM JEDDAH states that a vessel going from Jaffa with 250 Mussulman pilgrims for Mecca founded at about 100 miles from Jeddah. All on board were drowned, with the exception of a few, who saved themselves by holding to some loose spars.

IN CORRICA a young man and woman, having become attached to each other, wished to be married, but an aunt of the young man energetically objected to it, as the woman was much the oldest. This so excited the woman that she went and shot the aunt dead.

THE DIGNITY OF AN EARL of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland has been granted to the Earl of Eglinton. His title will be the Earl of Winton.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

Marylebone is in a fix. The honour of representing the largest and wealthiest constituency in the kingdom is going a begging. There is at least a dozen noted men anxious for seats in Parliament, but not one of them would venture upon Marylebone. The cost of an election is too great; the people are too exacting upon their members. Bernal Osborne looked and longed, and turned away. A seat in Parliament is very desirable just now, but goods may be bought too dear. Layard was thought of, but declined the expensive honour; as did also Sir Joshua Walmsley. And so Marylebone is driven to choose between two nobodies—Major Lyon and Lord Fermoy. Major Lyon I know not; but Lord Fermoy, who, it is said, will be the member, is the Mr. Edmund Burke Roche who sat in the House of Commons for Cork county from 1837 to 1855, when he was made an Irish peer. Lord Fermoy is connected, through his mother's family, with the celebrated Edmund Burke, and hence his name. His Lordship is forty-four years old. When he was in the House he ranked as a Radical Reformer, a Pealer, and advocate of tenant right. He occasionally spoke, but never astonished the House by his eloquence. It is strange that Marylebone, which includes within its boundaries so much of the rank and the wealth of the metropolis, should be driven to take an Irish peer for its representative.

The first fight in the new Parliament will come off on the election of a Chairman of Ways and Means. The Conservatives will propose Mr. Walpole; the Liberals, Mr. Massey. Mr. Walpole was talked of as Speaker when the late Speaker retired; but in the late Parliament there was no chance for him. It is felt, however, by his party that "something ought to be done for Walpole," and as the Conservative party is now stronger in the House, and as the right hon. gentleman is universally popular, and has many personal friends on the Liberal side, it has been thought that there may be a chance for him. Mr. Massey was Under-Secretary for the Home Department in the Palmerston Government, and expected, no doubt, an appointment in the new Ministry; but, as the Radicals demanded a certain number of seats, no room could be found for Mr. Massey. Of the two, I should say that Mr. Massey is the fittest for the place. Both are lawyers, and both are familiar with the practice of Parliament, but Mr. Massey, I think, would be more prompt and decisive in the chair. The salary of the post is £1800 a year, and the holder of the office seldom leaves it until he thinks proper to resign. The duties of the Chairman of Ways and Means are very onerous. He takes the chair whenever the House goes into Committee, whether of supply or on bills; and besides this he has important duties to perform in his office, where all "private bills" are sent to be examined, in order that no clause infringing upon Crown rights or public Acts may be smuggled through. To aid him in the performance of these duties he has a couple of clerks allowed him.

No Reform Bill is possible this Session. It is now July. In a month grouse-shooting will begin, and London will be unendurable. Meanwhile there are the Estimates, the Budget, Foreign Affairs, &c., to be attended to. And so the House is to meet in November, when the Reform Bill will be launched, and the election petitions tried. If a Reform Bill were now to be proposed, it must drop at the prorogation of the House; but at the rising of the House in the winter it will not drop, as the House will not then be prorogued, but only adjourned. I am afraid Gladstone will be again returned for Oxford University. "Afraid?" I think I hear some of your readers say. "Why, ought not such a man to be in Parliament?" Of course he ought; but I am anxious that he should go there free, and not clogged and loggered as he has hitherto been. Depend upon it that Gladstone would be a very different man if he represented another place. He is like a lark tied to a string pegged down to the earth. Every time he soars he is jerked back by the consciousness that he must not shock the antique political and ecclesiastical prejudices of the Oxford fogies. It would be doing an immense service to Mr. Gladstone and to the country to cut that hampering string once and for ever.

Some two years since M. Guizot, returning from Paris after a series of business interviews with Louis Napoleon, said to an intimate English friend, "You have often told me that the impression left on your mind after having met that man constantly here in society, at Gore House, where he might be supposed to throw off any restraint, and elsewhere, was that he was a fool. I told you at the time that, from what I had observed, I was half disposed to agree with you; now I am no longer in doubt; I am perfectly certain of it." Were the astute *rusé* ex-Minister and his friend, one of the clearest-headed, strongest-brained of editors, right in their verdict, or is this double-distilled Dutchman, this taciturn, immobile, bent-browed potentate an inscrutable mystery? Has he natural wisdom hidden behind that crumpled forehead; has he inherited that weird book of Destiny which schoolboys buy and secretly peruse, firmly believing that it contains the essence of the Great Napoleon's luck; or has he merely got his hand in and is making a succession of the luckiest "flukes"? We were very merry and facetious at the idea of his becoming a soldier, and chaffed his powers of strategy long before we knew whether he possessed them or not. The *Comic Journal* (which from its recent portraits of him as a good-looking man has gone back to the old hooknose, the Jew, and burglar-curl notion) was specially funny on his weak points. But if the battle of Solferino is the result of those studies in the fortress of Ham—if the bloodiest victory within the memory of living people is something more than mere accident—then have we all been grievously out in our reckoning. If the letters of the correspondents of English journals are to be credited, his has been the whole plan of this campaign, which has hitherto been a series of unchecked successes. He hears everything, listening attentively, and he prescribes his own course of action, and has it implicitly followed out. It cannot be denied that throughout his proceedings, more especially in his telegrams and official despatches, there is a dash of *charlatanerie* and theatrical display; but it must be recollect that this is as much national as individual, is indeed an integral portion of the French character, and, looking at mere bare fact, we must allow that his generalship has hitherto been as extraordinarily successful as his sovereignty.

Our rivers are beginning to favour us with their usual summer ebb. The Thames has for some time made itself offensive to the nostrils of all compelled to cross the bridges, and by a report from Dr. Lethby we have the gratifying intelligence that it is far from being at its worst; that we may expect far more pestiferous exhalations; and that throwing lime into the mouths of the sewers does not have the slightest effect. This is in direct opposition to the opinion of Dr. Allen Miller, of King's College, who, in a report to the Board of Works, recommended the use of lime, or some more powerful deodorising agent. And the summer is upon us, and not one step has been taken in this matter of vital importance, and while Thwaites, D'Iffanger, Leslie, and Co. are talking dull platitudes, such subjects as these are put aside and forgotten; but they will, nevertheless, call themselves to our remembrance. Already Jacob Omnim, guiding that lengthy horse which has taken the place of the stout cob through the crowd in Rotten-row, has suffered from the miasma arising from the fetid Serpentine, and a leader in the *Times*, condemnatory of the nuisance, recommends Mr. Fitzroy, the new head of the Board of Works, to treat that pestilential pool as the ornamental water in St. James's Park was treated under Lord Llanover's régime.

Poor old Baron Knesebeck, the faithful adherent of the Cambridge family, is gone at last, at a good old age. He was apparently never absent from the late Duke's side, modelled himself upon him, and copied his every action. Some years ago I recollect seeing the Count St. Aulaire, the French Ambassador, and the Countess, the Duke of Cambridge, and Baron Knesebeck in the north gallery at Exeter Hall during the performance of an oratorio. The old Duke, while paying the most polite attention to Madame St. Aulaire, occasionally turned from her and beat time to the music vigorously with a large music-book which he held in his hand. Baron Knesebeck placidly slumbered through most of the entertainment, except when the Duke's movements aroused him, when, waking up and seeing what was going on, he would immediately set to work at beating time with his music-book, in most ludicrous imitation of his master. He was a faithful servant, and his services were duly appreciated, for the Court Newsmen stated that the

ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

Duchess and the Princess Mary would actually refrain from accepting invitations until after his funeral.

My observations on the opera last week have called forth the following letter from a gentleman, who verifies his statement by his name and address:—

TO THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

"I venture to address a few lines to you in consequence of your remark last week that 'the press should have the courage to speak out,' and because I do not agree with you in your conclusion that the failure of the Italian operas arises from indifference on the part of the middle classes to that kind of entertainment. At five minutes after ten this morning I went to the box-office of Drury Lane Theatre, to take either seats or seats in the dress boxes for 'D' Giovanni' on Thursday next, the first announcement of the performance having been made in yesterday's *Observer*. I was informed there were no seats to let for Thursday; and, on my inquiry whether they could be had, was referred to 'the little blue office' (the box-office) directly opposite the theatre, where, sure enough, they were to be had at the advertised prices. Surely this case settles the question; and, in my opinion, it gives the clue to the secret of the English operas."

M. H. T. Smith has already sent his name to the bookseller and others who were connected with her Majesty's Theatre. Mr. Smith, Mr. Lansbury, the box-keeper-in-chief who has been transferred to Drury Lane, was present when my application was made. Mr. Smith, during his own season at Christmas, kept faith with the public. At that time, when you used to take places, you were not referred to the "little blue office," and the consequence was the theatre was always full. But now the public, very properly, will not put up with the attempted fraud of the double price, and those who go to Drury Lane with free admissions are obliged to admit that the theatre is always half empty. Do you think that Mr. Albert Smith would have reached even one hundred nights if he had referred those who went to take places at the Hall to the "little blue office," where they would have to pay double price? Would Robson be able to play one piece for six months if he sent all his audience to Sims' or Mitchell's? Most certainly not. Surely, then, the rotten system of the opera, which disgusts the public, must not be taken as a proof that the middle classes would not patronise this class of entertainment if introduced and managed without imposition. Let it be evident that places can be had at the prices advertised, and there would soon be a different result.

I must apologise for troubling you at such length, but, as an admirer of the drama, both lyrical and "farcical," I cannot help making an appeal to you to exert your influence to upset a system which contains so much wrong.

Your obedient servant,

ONE OF THE PUBLIC.

This letter requires no comment; such conduct on the part of the opera management is simply suicidal.

The first number of "Once a Week" is published. There are some very pretty easy verses by Mr. Tom Taylor; a pleasant science-paper, by Mr. G. H. Lewes; the commencement of a story by Mr. Charles Reade, and a tale "from the Norse," by Mr. Daseen. Good names these, and good articles, except the last; perhaps, which is not very interesting. A short story, called "The Original Bunhouse," would, I should think, have been rejected by Ainsworth. Of the illustrations, which are numerous, several are by Mr. Leech, Leech-y; girls with rather *retroussé* noses, liberal display of shoulders, the Leech-ian eyes made with three pencil-strokes, and the usual round hats, and wind-blown hair and dresses—of course all very pretty, graceful, and natural. Mr. Millais contributes a very dark cut of a girl overcome with grief at the news of the battle of Magenta—the pose very natural, and the drawing capital. Mr. Tenniel has a very spirited drawing; but perhaps the best in the number is one by Mr. Keene, which is Albert Durer-ish in its quaintness and excellence.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

A NEW SYSTEM OF TELEGRAPH.

In these days of Faraday lectures attended by Royal children, and Kensington Museums crowded by the multitude, we are all, to a certain extent, scientific amateurs, and devote ourselves to science questions with a zeal and an ignorance which must puzzle the real professors. Telegraphic experiments are especially interesting, and any new light thrown upon this question, which possesses a domestic interest casting mere scientific value far into the background, will be received gratefully. In this frame of mind we must hail a pamphlet on the *Globe Telegraph*,* treating of the use of the earth for the transmission of electric signals, by Mr. Septimus Beardmore, well known as a skilled and enterprising civil engineer, with great gratification. Some of the inquiries that he has instituted are of great value, if the inferences which he has drawn from them be correct. But we must remember that the result of the practical tests which he has applied to his invention does not carry to our mind that conviction of its value with which it appears to have impressed the author. That the invention, as it stands, deserves the fullest trial, and is at once simple and beautiful, no one, probably, will be disposed to deny; but that it is capable of realising, even in part, the anticipations of the patentee is a wholly different matter. The *Globe Telegraph* is, correctly speaking, a globe battery. We do not gather from the specification that Mr. Beardmore contemplates the employment of anything more than a slightly-modified form of the present telegraphic instrument. In principle his improvement wholly consists in the abolition of local batteries, and the substitution of a plate of positive metal buried in the earth at the termination of one telegraphic terminal station, and a plate of negative metal similarly treated at the other. The ordinary conducting-wire suspended in the air forms one-half of the circuit between these plates, and the earth acts on the exciting medium, and, as heretofore, forms the remaining half of the circuit. Mr. Beardmore states that, although the plates are a hundred, perhaps a thousand, miles apart, sufficient electricity of a low intensity can thus be generated for the purposes of the electric telegraph. It is to be regretted that he has not substantiated his assertion by publishing the results of more conclusive tests than his invention has hitherto sustained. His railway experiments are valueless as proofs; his Guernsey trip is not fruitful in results. Mr. Beardmore is, however, so candid both in his failures and successes that it would be unjust to him not to admit that he appears to us to have paused in his practical experiment rather from an over confidence in the truth of his reasonings than from any apprehension of the experiments failing to produce the expected results. If he could have stated "my earth batteries were joined up at Guernsey and Southampton simultaneously at a given signal, and the Guernsey office sent to and received from the Southampton office signals at the rate of so many words per minute, with clear marks and perfect dots, or with sharp galvanometrical deflections," such a paragraph would have been worth fifty of his theoretical tables on the relation of battery surface to distance. His reasoning on the secondary importance of insulation under the proposed system of earth batteries is apparently sound; his arrangement of metal for the conversion of positive plates into negative plates—thus transmitting the positive current invariably through the earth, and using the line wire only for the return half of the circuit—is, whether original or not, exceedingly beautiful. It is an ominous clause, however, in the specification that contemplates the contingency in which he could use "two, three, or more insulated wires, where one wire has hitherto alone been employed."

Every one will wish Mr. Beardmore success; and no one can show their sincerity more clearly than by recommending him to obtain the premises of the Electric Telegraph Company to test his invention with an actual needle or pointing instrument over two or three hundred miles of one of their overground and one of their subterranean circuits. When this is done the value of the patent can be more correctly estimated.

We will say nothing, if you please, of earth currents, technically so called: sufficient for the day is the evil thereof.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

Mr. Tom Taylor's new comedy, "The Contested Election," produced at the Haymarket on Wednesday night, is a satire, in two acts, upon the absurdities of our representative system, and notably upon the means

used by candidates and voters to carry out their respective ends. Mr. Dodgson (Mr. C. Mathews), a sharp country attorney without practice, finding two clubs of very venal voters ready to be purchased, pursues a high-spirited, dashing lady, Mrs. Honeybun (Mrs. C. Mathews), to have her henpecked husband put in nomination. This poor fellow's money and promises (made for him by others) effect so much good that he has a strong chance of being returned, which would be the direst punishment that could possibly be inflicted on him. But he is saved by the machinations of a young barrister, who is in love with his daughter, and who, on condition that he receives the young lady's hand and a sum of money to clear his election expenses, goes in to oppose him and heads him at the poll. This slight thread of plot is elaborated by the wittiest dialogue and very good acting. Mr. Compton shines pre-eminent; and Messrs. C. Mathews, Buckstone, Clark, Braid, and Rogers act with much spirit. The piece was entirely successful.

Literature.

A Tale for the Pharisees. By the Author of "Dives and Lazarus." Judd and Glass.

In this unpretending shape, with a bad title, and evidently by an unpractised writer, we introduce to our readers a book of very great merit in the natural school of story-telling. We should be glad to be instrumental in helping it to the widest possible circulation among all sorts of readers, glad in the interest of healthy morality and just views of life and conduct. But let no one of weak nerve encounter, inadvertently, its almost intolerable life-likeness of painful detail. If the story is chiefly an invention, we should claim for its author a genius second only to that of Daniel Defoe. If it is merely a transcript, still we are puzzled where to place the transcriber, if not in a similar rank. Let us take it as it is, and give our readers some idea of a tale of real life which is real in very terrible earnest, whether "founded on fact" or not.

"A Tale for the Pharisees" is usually written on what we may call the principle of the Vortex, pure and simple. The lesson of charity is urged upon grounds suggested by a picture of some fellow-creature suddenly drawn into a whirlpool of passion (we use the customary phraseology of such things) and promptly plunged into irretrievable guilt. This is a common occurrence, no doubt; but when the victim of the Vortex is represented, as he generally is, as a person of fine feelings and high principle, we all resent the idea of his being so suddenly "drawn" and "plunged" into sin. The thing is not in nature, unless there be an original propensity in the character to the particular wrong, whatever it may be; and if we had known that propensity from a fair statement of the man's character at starting we should have foreseen his fall. So that we feel cheated out of our surprise when we find that he sins blackly, and give him only a very reluctant half-sympathy after all. This is the stagey way of appealing to "the Pharisees," and always does more harm than good, encouraging the wicked, and puzzling the well-meaning. In opposition to the Vortex pure and simple principle of appeal stands the principle which combines the Vortex, as initiating a wrong career, and the force of *very long-continued circumstantial entanglement*, in addition, to carry it to its goal. But the intelligence and the dramatic faculty requisite for appealing to the Pharisees on this principle are rarely found together. One man sees, but he cannot tell a story. Another could tell the story, but he cannot see. The author of this book can do both; and he works out the lesson of his narrative in the teeth, not only of the moral disapprobation, but of the *disgust*, which is sometimes excited—a task, we need not say, of extreme, almost unconquerable, difficulty.

A gentleman is present at the post-mortem examination of the body of a woman who had been taken to a hospital, after being run over, tipsy, by a carriage. She had had a bad character for drunkenness, "assaults," and so forth, and her hands were hard with prison labour. When the gentleman enters, the skin of the skull covers that of the face, and prevents his seeing the features; but it is afterwards drawn back, and he is struck both with their beauty and their nobleness of moral expression, which he mentions to his friend the chaplain of the place. This leads to a disclosure of the dead woman's story, and of that story the book is composed. Now, the problem was this—how to dismiss this woman from her last "assault" and her last drunken fit to a shameful grave, carrying with her battered and ignominious corpse the sympathies of the reader. That problem the author has triumphantly worked out. Margaret is all but worshipped, as well as wept over, before she disappears; and that "Pharisee" is in a bad way who does not, as he closes the book, rate his own safe, respectable virtues at a low figure, and change places with the Other, saying, "God be merciful to me, a sinner!"

Margaret was a handsome Kentish girl who came up to service in London, and, after surmounting a serious temptation, married George Meadows, a handsome, intelligent postman. The pair went into the green-grocery line at Camberwell, and had one son. He, poor, weak lad, fell into bad hands, and robbed his employer. The father died of consumption without having heard of the theft, and the mother became aware of it while her husband's corpse was yet unburied. She redeemed her son this time by giving up every penny of her savings, and throwing herself on the world in service again. Her career was still more than unblemished—it was noble. With her boy she had unceasing trouble; and, once more, at the instigation of a heartless woman, he robs his employers. The mother finds the cash-box under his bed, goes and changes a marked bank-note out of it in such a way that she is sure of being apprehended for theft, and is committed, tried, and sentenced to penal servitude for her son's crime! Her son cannot help her by taking the blame on himself (the precise *why* the book discloses), and goes abroad to earn money with which to make his mother welcome there when her term should be run out. But consumption overtakes him too, and he dies. The mother, released from gaol, gets slop-work to do, and still lives an excellent, self-denying life. By "circumstances" of neighbourhood and lodgment, she gets entangled innocently in a bloody, drunken brawl, in which an old prison mate discloses her antecedents. By-and-by, still pure and still honest (as she always continues), but badgered about from misery to misery, helping all and helped of scarce any, the brain and heart sore and sick, this fond mother of a lost son takes a little gin as a narcotic. Once, under its influence, living on nothing a day, and horribly earning it, she stabs some ruffian who, not knowing how hard he hit, insulted her long-enduring motherhood. Prison, prison again—a brief, sad outcast life (still pure and honest)—and then death in the street from an internal rupture or being run over. And is this the end? A pauper's funeral for this woman? Why, the most hardened novel-devourer grows hysterical as he reads, and calls for a chariot of fire and a body guard of angels for Saint Margaret Meadows!

All attempts to give an adequate idea of the vividness and naturalness with which the story is told must fail. We can only say, beg, borrow, or steal the book, read it at one sitting, if you can (but we defy you), and thank Heaven that such a lesson has been vouchsafed to you. But, after all this dulness, we may give specimen of the minutely humorous painting of some of the lighter scenes. Margaret, in service, is going out with the postman for the first time, and "the young ladies" of the house want to see her before she is off:

ABOVE AND BELOW STAIRS.

Quickly as things had been arranged, it could not be hidden from the young ladies that Margaret had purchased a new bonnet, and had also had a new dress made, and, knowing from their own feelings that purchases of the kind generally meant mischief to some man's peace of mind, they were naturally most anxious to see the preparation for conquest; but both Margaret and the cook had determined not to gratify their curiosity. The young ladies, however, were not easily to be got rid of. Two of them, after having made preparations for making a cake in the kitchen, stationed themselves in the parlour, there being no patients there for the moment, and the youngest, a particularly sharp girl, had placed herself in one of the bed-

rooms, so as to command the staircase. Cook, however, was not to be overcome. She had just been up stairs to give a finishing touch to Margaret, when, finding the youngest daughter looking out from the bed-room, and knowing the others to be waiting in the parlour, she, without knocking at the door, walked into the drawing-room.

"If you please, ma'am," she said, "it's impossible for me to do my work in the kitchen if the young ladies are continually running in and out; I am sure the place is more like a Bedlam than anything else. I do all I can to do my duty, but if I am," &c.

"Now, cook, pray don't worry me; I am not well. Why do you let them come into the kitchen at all!"

"Well, ma'am," said the cook, "it's no use my saying anything. It's no use my trying all I can do to give satisfaction," &c.

"You had better send the young ladies to me, and I will speak to them," said Mrs. Johnson.

"Yes, ma'am," said the cook; and they were immediately sent to their mamma.

Margaret profited by the opportunity to slip down stairs and out of the house, but not so rapidly as entirely to escape observation; for the youngest daughter was heard to say to her sisters, as they left the drawing-room, "she'd a straw bonnet on with cherry-coloured ribbons, and the cook's shawl."

The male characters in the story are not so well done as the female. Sarah Beaman is admirably painted, and the whole of the Australian episode is told with ghastly power. We half-suspect grave faults of literary art in this "Tale for the Pharisees"; but it must be a critic of a wiry mental constitution that ferrets them out. Our worst fear of all is that "the Pharisees" in general won't have courage to read it through, and will so miss the teaching.

VICISSITUDES OF ITALY SINCE THE CONGRESS OF VIENNA. BY A. L. V. GRETTON. London: Routledge and Co.

This volume, of over three hundred pages, is an expanded reprint from the *British and Foreign Evangelical Review*. It is a really well-written and reliable book, and as "impartial" as we ever wish a history to be. The perfectly impartial historian is not only that "faultless monster whom the world ne'er saw," but he is a monster whom the world will, as one man, kick out when it does see him!

CONFESSIONS OF A TOO-GENEROUS YOUNG LADY. WITH A LATER CONTINUATION. London: Saunders, Otley, and Co.

THIS IS A ONE-VOLUME STORY, WITH A MORAL FOUND ON A THUNDERSTORM, AS FOLLOWS:—

THE EVE OF THE WEDDING.

The evening before, Algernon and I had been watching the sunset; it was gorgeous, but threatening. "So, perhaps, may our life be, stormy, yet beautiful," he murmured; "those sweet rose tints emblematic of the beauty of happiness, those menacing purples foreshadow the grandeur of the tempest, and see—the divine light of the hidden sun glorifies their rich darkness, and thus may the heavenly radiance of love gild our trials!"

"So be it!" I returned, "the glory of the tempest is preferable to the dead twilight of the shroud-like mist. The stern toils and trials of life, when sanctified by holy aims, are better for the soul than the lifeless calms of unvarying pleasure and utter rest."

In the "later continuation" this couple get "the glory of the tempest," in the shape of the husband being sold up in consequence of the wife's extravagance, and also in the drowning of their little boy. In spite of some left-handed construction and trivial sentiment, this fragment of a book contains passages of good natural writing, which suggest that if the authoress had been trained to the craft she might have produced nice stories for easy reading. We should not be sorry to meet her again.

GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR RIFLE CLUBS.—The new Secretary at War has intimated that the Government, as a modification of what the late Ministry did, intend to furnish rifles as far as may be necessary for the instruction of members of rifle clubs. One rifle out of five will be supplied, that number being sufficient for all purposes of practice. In case, however, of the corps being called out for duty, the Government will supply the whole number required, reserving to themselves the right of ownership, and requiring that the arms should be properly taken care of.

OUR NAVAL AFFAIRS.—*The Times* says:—"We are requested to state that the reduction in the number of seamen which took place after the Crimean war was accomplished without prematurely discharging those who had taken service for a specific period of time. The circumstances under which this sudden and, as it now proves, prejudicial diminution of our naval force took place were as follow:—The demand for the cessation of the war income-tax forced the Government to bring the Military and Naval Estimates within the limits of the revenue as it would stand when the extra ninepence was taken off. To carry out this object, all the seamen who had not engaged for a specific time were dismissed; and, though these had doubtless quitted the merchant service with the idea that they were to have something like permanent employment in the Navy, and were not to be sent adrift in eighteen months, yet, as no contract for a certain period of employment had been entered into, it cannot be said that faith was broken with them. As to those engaged for a specific period of service, they were simply allowed their immediate discharge if they chose to take it. A great number did so, and thus the number of seamen for the ensuing year was brought within the limits of the available revenue. So far as the non-dismissal of those whom the Government could not legally dismiss may be considered as keeping faith with the seamen, we must admit that the Admiralty has just grounds for defence; but it is well known that the wholesale discharge of men—of all, it appears, who were not engaged for a definite period—has created much ill-feeling among a class on whom the country's safety depends."

M. JULLIEN IN TROUBLE.—Jullien went to Paris in May last, and was arrested for non-payment of a bill of exchange. In order to obtain his release from prison he had himself declared a bankrupt. M. Delcypierre, who holds the bill of exchange, applied to the Tribunal of Commerce to order the declaration of bankruptcy to be set aside, on the ground that M. Jullien had been naturalised as an Englishman, and could not, therefore, enjoy the privileges of a Frenchman in a case of bankruptcy. Jullien, it is replied, represented that as the letters of naturalisation he had obtained in England stipulated that he could be neither a member of Parliament nor Minister of the Crown, nor a grand dignitary of State, he could not be considered an English subject, but only as a denizen of England; that letters of full naturalisation in England can only be accorded by Parliament, whereas his had been given by a Minister; and that, having returned to France, he had recovered his French nationality. But the tribunal held that, having obtained all the rights and privileges of a British subject, absent from certain restrictions, allowed by an Act of Parliament of 1832, and having taken the oath of submission and allegiance to the Queen of England, he was a naturalised Englishman, and consequently could not be declared a bankrupt in France.

PRISON DISCIPLINE IN AMERICA.—An ancient mode of punishment for the refractory has been revived at the Sing Sing Prison, consisting of a box about three feet square, and as high as the tallest man. The convict enters by a door and puts his head through a hole in the top, after which a sliding collar of wood is fastened around his neck and keeps him in his place. A false bottom in the box is raised or lowered, by means of a pulley, so that it may be adapted to the height of the man to be punished. This bottom is so raised as to bend the convict's legs at the knees. He cannot straighten up nor can he kneel down without suspending himself by the neck—he must bear his weight by his muscles alone, for his knees can touch nothing to sustain them in position. It is impossible to believe that anybody could endure such torture for more than a few minutes without great risk of life. Last week a tall, stalwart negro was taken out of it with animation so far suspended that resuscitation was for a long time doubtful.—*New York Police Gazette*.

DEATH BY HORNETS.—A letter dated "The Nerubuddah at Behra Ghât, near Jubbulpore, May 15," says:—"A most melancholy accident occurred here on the 10th inst. Two European gentlemen belonging to the Indian Railway Company—viz., Messrs. Armstrong and Boddington—were surveying a place called Bunder Coode, for the purpose of throwing a bridge across the Nerubuddah, the channel of which, being in this place ten to fifty yards wide, is fathoms, having white marble rocks rising perpendicularly on either side from 100 to 150 feet high, and beetling fearfully in some parts. Suspended in the recesses of these marble rocks are numerous large hornets' nests, the inmates of which are ready to descend upon any unlucky wight who may venture to disturb their repose. Now, as the boats of these European surveyors were passing up the river, a cloud of these insects overwhaled them. The boatmen, as well as the two gentlemen, jumped overboard; but alas! Mr. Boddington, who swam, and had succeeded in clinging to a marble block, was again attacked, and, being unable any longer to resist the assaults of the countless hordes of his infuriated winged foes, threw himself into the depths of the water never to rise again. On the fourth day his corpse was discovered floating on the water, and was interred with every mark of respect. The other gentleman, Mr. Armstrong, and his boatmen, although very severely stung, are out of danger."

ISOURA.

ISOURA, a small village about five miles from Alessandria, is situated on the banks of the Scrivia, and was one of the first places in which the French army took up a position to watch the movements of the Austrians. From the summit of the mountains which surround the village the Austrian camp was easily discernible, so that it was quite impossible for the French to be taken by surprise. The village, which has an antiquated appearance, is extremely picturesque; and there are some fine old châteaux in the immediate neighbourhood of the bridges across the Scrivia, which the reader will observe represented in the annexed Engraving.

MONT CENIS.

The subjoined Illustration depicts the passage of French troops into Piedmont across Mont Cenis, the principal mountain of the Cottian Alps, at the period that the allies of Sardinia were hastening to rescue her from the perilous position in which she was placed consequent upon the Austrian declaration of war. Situated about two-thirds of the way up the mountain is the famous monastery said to have been founded by the great Charlemagne. In 1802 Napoleon I. stopped here for a while; and by his orders a barrack, a church, and a crenelated wall were added to the building. Two years later Pope Pius VII. fell ill here while on his way home from Paris, where he had been to officiate at the coronation of the Emperor.



ISOURA, ON THE TICINO.

SIR JOHN LAWRENCE.

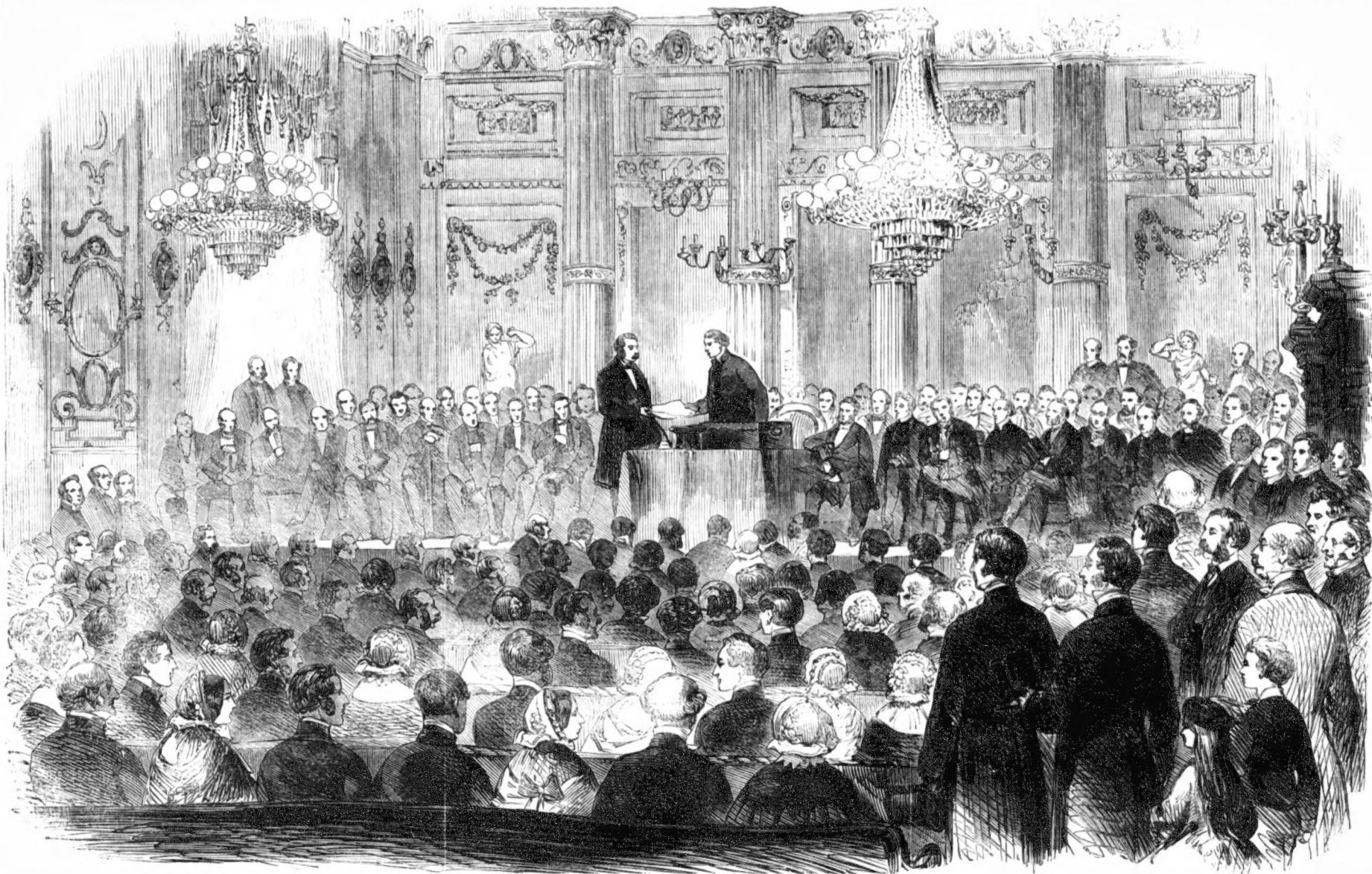
An address to Sir John Lawrence, signed by seven thousand persons, was presented to him on Friday week by a distinguished deputation at Willis's Rooms. The Bishop of London presided at the meeting.

He addressed Sir John Lawrence, referring in emphatic terms to his services in India. The question of introducing the Bible into Government schools in India formed an important part of the Bishop's address. He said:—

When we were told by men of great experience that, however desirable it was to give a Christian character to our education in India, it might lead to another outbreak such as we had lately witnessed, I confess for my own part I did feel very anxious to hear what would be said on this subject by some one whose knowledge was really practical and extensive in this matter. And when we had your testimony that, to the best of your belief, there was no such danger to be apprehended, I for one considered the question as settled. I believe that is the feeling of the whole country; for there is no man who would undertake to say, from one end of England to the other, he would not desire that the education of India should be Christian, if the thing could be done; and here we have the best authority for believing that it can. I heartily coincide with you in your opinion that before the Bible could be beneficially introduced into the Government schools you must have competent teachers. I do not think any very great good could arise from a Heathen or a Deist giving lectures upon the New Testament; and I think the scriptural instruction in our schools should be such as not merely to acquaint the natives with the dates and geography of the history of our Lord, but also to imbue their



FRENCH TROOPS CROSSING MONT CENIS.



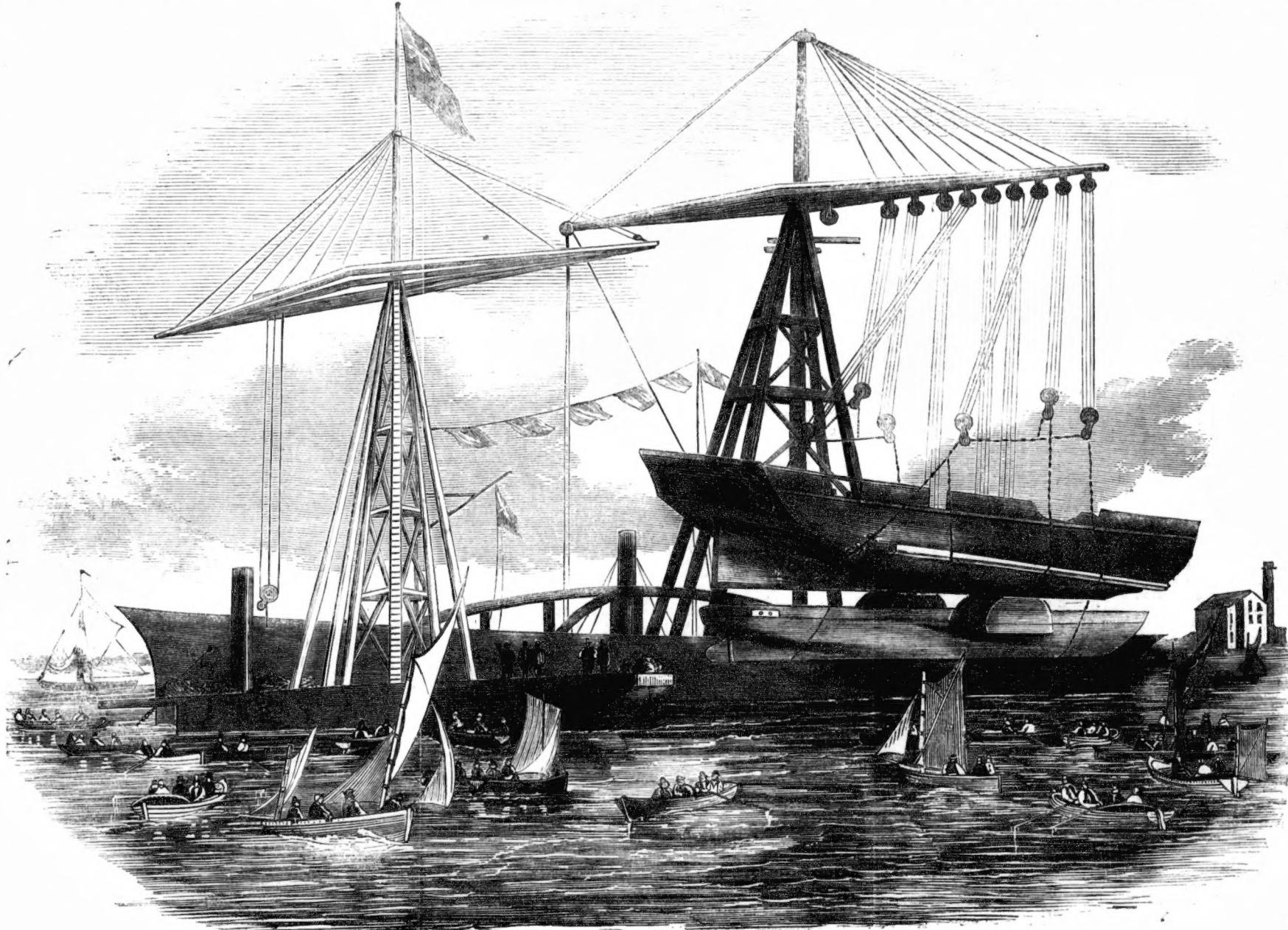
PRESENTATION OF ADDRESS TO SIR JOHN LAWRENCE, AT WILLIS'S ROOMS.

minds with Christian principle, and make a pure Christian morality the basis of their future lives.

In his reply Sir John said :—
You have been good enough to attribute to me a large share of the credit

which is considered due to those who fought to maintain the supremacy of England and secure the safety of her people, so sorely jeopardised in the late dreadful struggle in India. I am grateful for the good opinion of my countrymen, and deem their suffrages the highest honour I could gain. There were, however, in that crisis many men by my side who are fairly

entitled to participate in this distinction, and whose services I have endeavoured to bring to notice. All, however, which we did was no more than our duty, and even our immediate interest. It was no more than the necessities of our position impelled us to attempt. Our sole chance of escape was to resist to the last. The path of honour, of duty, and of safety, was clearly



LIFTING OF THE "FOREINGEN" AND "WATERSPRITE" BY THE NEW PATENT DERRICK.

marked out for us. The desperation of our circumstances nerved us to the uttermost. We had no retreat, no scope for compromise. That we were eventually successful against the fearful odds which beset us was alone the work of the great God who so mercifully vouchsafed His protection. Nothing but a series of miracles saved us. To Him, therefore, alone is the glory due. I see no valid reason for changing the opinion which I expressed on the expediency of allowing the Bible to be read in all our schools and colleges in India by those who desire to do so. Far from apprehending evil from this liberty, I believe that the results for some years would be scarcely perceptible. In progress of time, no doubt, however, the seed which was sown would bring forth fruit. It is not possible to introduce Western learning and science into India without leading its people to throw off their own faith. If this position be correct, surely we are bound to give them facilities for acquiring a knowledge of the true faith. This is our true policy, not only as Christians, but as statesmen. Had the mutineers of the Bengal army possessed some insight into the principles of the Christian religion they would never have been misled in the manner they were; they would never have banded themselves together to avenge imaginary wrongs. Ignorance in all ages has been productive of error and delusion. India has formed no exception to this rule. I pray that the misfortunes entailed by this mutiny may teach England true wisdom, without which her tenure of India can never prove prosperous and enduring.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

Mercadante's "Il Giuramento," which was to have been produced at the Royal Italian Opera Tuesday evening, was postponed in consequence of the indisposition of Signor Mario. The "Pardon de Ploërmel" will, in all probability, be brought out next week. M. Meyerbeer has already arrived to superintend the rehearsals. Madame Molan-Carvalho, who is to play the part of Dinorah, is also in London, and, before the production of Meyerbeer's work, will make her appearance as Rosina, in "The Barber of Seville."

At Drury Lane the great attraction of the moment is the "Huguenots," with Mademoiselle Titien, who, in the part of Valentine, creates as much sensation as if she had not played it all last season at Her Majesty's Theatre. In the duet with Marcel (Marini), and, above all, in the grand, unapproachable duet with Raoul (Giuglini), she acts sublimely and sings with the truest accent of passion that can be heard. The whole opera is well played, and the grand concerted and choral pieces are given with an ensemble and a largeness of effect which had not previously been attained at the Drury Lane Opera. Signor Fagotti's De Revers could scarcely be surpassed. The gentleman, too, who sang the couplets of the Huguenot soldier was both willing and able to sing in tune; indeed, the "Rataplan" chorus was, in all respects, rendered to perfection. Mademoiselle Brambilla has a thin voice, but of pleasing quality. The thoroughly French music of the Queen is not suited to her, but there is no reason why she should not in time become an efficient singer of Italian music. The worst-represented part in the opera is that of the Page, by Mademoiselle Lemire, who, in spite of her vocal capabilities, fails to make the part interesting. Of Giuglini's Raoul we have often spoken in these columns. Latterly he has adopted the energetic mode of singing, though in our opinion the languid is alone suited to him. How is he to be languid, it will, perhaps, be asked, when playing the part of Raoul to the Valentine of Mdlle. Titien? We can understand the difficulty, and, further, we are willing to admit that Signor Giuglini does his best to interpret his part in its true dramatic spirit. But, like "the quality of mercy," the best quality of acting "is not strained." As to Signor Giuglini's voice, it may be said that it was never in such admirable condition as at present. *That*, at all events, has not been strained.

Mdlle. Piccolomini has returned from America, with additional liveliness and a fresh stock of unbecoming pertness. Whether the applause of the loafers, the spicifiers, the hard-eggs, the know-nothings, &c., has had the effect of urging on Mdlle. Piccolomini from bad to worse, or whether her present style of performance is simply the natural development of her former style, we, of course, cannot say; but she certainly vulgarises Mozart's Zerlina most perfectly, and is equally successful in giving vulgarity to the graceful and ladylike though frail heroine of the "Traviata." Of this latter part the most charming representative that can be seen is Mdlle. Sarolta. Nothing can be more brilliant than her performance in the first act, in the midst of Violetta's artificial gaiety just tinged with natural compunction; nor more pathetic than her scene of the separation in the second act; nor more truly affecting in a variety of senses than her acting in the gambling scene of the great finale, and throughout the whole of the painful scenes which compose act iii. In dress, manner, and general demeanour, Mademoiselle Sarolta is perfect. She does not offend us by representing a typical "Traviata," but is just such a Violetta as a well-bred Alfredo might forget himself for. Those of our readers who have never seen Mademoiselle Sarolta will, perhaps, understand the refinement which marks her impersonation from one single feature—she represents the consummate girl to perfection, but, unlike all the other representatives of the part, never coughs or spits. Without one offensive detail she gives us all the poetry of the character.

The last of the "Monday Popular Concerts" took place this week at St. James's Hall. These interesting and admirably-arranged entertainments had their origin in a series of six, of which it had been announced that each would consist of the chamber music of some one great composer. The first of the series, which took place in February last, was devoted entirely to the chamber compositions of Mendelssohn, and was in all respects successful; though not more so than the five following ones, of which the programmes were selected in turn from the works of Mozart, Beethoven, Weber, Handel, &c. The classical series was then announced for repetition; but, although the system of making each concert consist of the works of one master was still observed, an entirely fresh selection was given at each of the additional concerts. The only departure from the general principle on which the series was founded occurred once or twice when it was thought advisable to unite in the same concert specimens of two different composers—the first part being devoted to one, the second to the other. This one concert was composed exclusively of the works of Handel and Bach, who were not only contemporaries, but, as musicians, had many points of analogy between them; and in another the honours of the evening were equally divided between Schubert and Spohr, also contemporaries.

Of these concerts generally we may say that they have been not only successful themselves but the cause of failure in others. Before the Monday Popular Concerts took a classical turn and became organised, the inconsequential and mongrel entertainments known as miscellaneous concerts used to attract large audiences to the St. James's Hall. These chaotic soirées, in which operatic scenes, English ballads, German lieder, French chansonnies, and fantasias by half-a-dozen different "arrangers," founded on as many themes by different composers, were mixed confusedly together—have at present no success unless they happen to be given by professors for the benefit of their pupils, in which case the programme is, of course, the last thing considered. Since the commencement of the classical series of concerts, nearly five months since, there has been no sign of a relapse in the direction of the "miscellaneous" system. On the contrary, the public appears to understand already that a miscellaneous concert is a kind of absurdity. At the very least, it may be said that good music, like good pictures, is all the better for being well arranged. Look at some of our picture galleries, where a Cimabue, a Paul Potter, a Turner, a Raphael, a Rembrandt, and—who knows?—perhaps a Benjamin West, are hung at random together. In the Louvre, on the other hand, the pictures of each master are classed together, so that the vast gallery forms, as it were, a living history of painting. It appears to us that the lumber-room style of hanging has its analogue in the arrangement of a miscellaneous concert, while the "Monday Popular Concerts" show, as nearly as possible, the method which marks the classification of the pictures at the Louvre.

On Wednesday next, at M. Benedict's morning concert (St. James's Hall), Miss Anna Whitty, who has just arrived from Italy, preceded by a great reputation, will make her first appearance before an English audience.—Mr. Howard Glover announces a grand concert at Drury Lane for July the 11th.

STATISTICS OF THE HANDEL FESTIVAL.

THE Handel Commemoration is over; visitors and performers have all dispersed to their respective homes; and the greatest interest is now felt in the results—pecuniary and otherwise.

First, as to the numbers present. These have far exceeded those of the Festival in 1857, and must, in fact, have far exceeded the expectations of the projectors of the Festival themselves. The numbers present at the 1857 Festival were as follows:

Saturday	Rehearsal	8,344
Monday	Messiah	11,129
Wednesday	Judas Maccabeus	11,649
Friday	Israel in Egypt	17,292
	Total	48,414

In 1859—		
Saturday	Rehearsal	19,680
Monday	Messiah	17,109
Wednesday	Te Deum	17,644
Friday	Israel in Egypt	26,287
	Total	80,720

It will thus be seen that the numbers present last week were upwards of 32,000 in excess of the number at the preliminary Festival in 1857.

Next, as to the pecuniary results, these cannot be given with perfect accuracy at present, but it is believed that the receipts will amount to about £30,000. Allowing £15,000 for expenditure, there remains a surplus of the same amount, which, in accordance with the agreement entered into by the two bodies, will give to the Crystal Palace Company a net profit of about £10,000 (besides the value of the orchestra and fittings), and to the Sacred Harmonie Society the sum of £5000, in addition to the large stock of music, &c., provided for the purposes of the Festival. To this is to be added the sum of £2000, reserved as a guarantee fund from the Festival of 1857, which will be divided between the company and the society.

During the Festival the consumption of creature comforts was something as follows:—1600 dozen sandwiches, 1200 dozen pork pies, 400 dozen Sydenham pasties, 800 veal and ham pies, 650 pigeon pies, 480 hams, 3500 chickens, 120 balonites of lamb, 240 fore quarters of lamb, 150 galantines of chicken, 60 raised game pies, 3052 lobster salads, 3825 dishes of salmon mayonnaise, 300 score of lettuce, 40,000 buns at a penny each, 25,000 ditto at twopence, 32,249 ices, 2419 dozen "beverages," 1152 ditto ale and stout, 403 Crystal Palace puddings, 400 jellies, nine tons of roast and boiled beef, 400 creams, 350 fruit tarts, 3506 quarts of tea, coffee, and chocolate, and 485 tongues. The consumption of wines, which was enormous, had not been ascertained when this account was made up.

IRELAND.

LOSS OF LIFE AT SEA.—The *Banner of Ulster* contains the following sad story:—"A more than usual degree of excitement has been caused at this port by an event of a peculiarly melancholy character. A man-of-war's boat was conveying away from one of our wharves a draught of recruits for the navy, amounting, as we understand, to sixteen. They were escorted by the boat's crew of the ship, making in all nineteen persons. The tender to which the recruits were to have been conveyed was anchored in the Whitehouse roads, about three miles from the quays of Belfast. Unfortunately, the boat never reached her destination. Through some mischance at present unexplained she capsized in sight of the pilot cutter, and thirteen out of the nineteen on board perished. Those who have been rescued owe their lives to the exertions of the persons on board the pilot's gig."

SCOTLAND.

MURDER AND SUICIDE IN EDINBURGH.—A Mr. and Mrs. Ferrier were recently found lying dead in their kitchen, with their throats cut. It was at once suspected that the man had been the perpetrator of this crime, and the suspicion was confirmed by the discovery of a slip of paper, on which were written the following words:—"I am now unfit for my business. I have applied to the authorities of both Ayr and Edinburgh for protection, and only got laughed at. I now appeal to God. I should wish to be laid beside my boy, but if this woman is to be laid there let my body be given to the dissecting-room, and after they have done with me let my body be burned." On the same paper there were also instructions given as to the management of some property of which he was the proprietor, and the whole was distinctly written. It may be inferred from the words in the above-quoted sentence—"but if this woman is to be laid there"—that Ferrier had written his testament in the interval between his cutting the throat of his wife and his own suicide. The deceased were nearly sixty years of age. Mrs. Ferrier was a woman of intemperate habits, and she and her husband had of late had frequent quarrels.

THE PROVINCES.

CONFESSOR OF MURDER.—A man named Price, a Welshman, was brought before the magistrates at the Bilton Petty Sessions for stealing a brass tap and a piece of lead piping. He gave himself into custody on this charge. The officer who apprehended him made inquiries, and having ascertained that such articles had been stolen, conveyed him to the police station. Here the prisoner said he had been implicated in the murder of a gamekeeper at Liverpool some years ago. On a certain night he, with another man, was out poaching, when they were interrupted by a gamekeeper, who was shot. The most extraordinary part of the story is that the prisoner affirms he held the gun while his companion shot the keeper. He also states that his companion was arrested, and, after undergoing trial, was executed at Liverpool, but that he (Price) made his escape. The magistrates committed him for one month upon the charge of theft. In the meantime inquiries will be made into the truth of his statement.

ALLEGED ABDUCTION OF A VOTER.—The Bury magistrates were occupied on Saturday with investigating an accusation brought against sundry persons, friends of Mr. F. Peel, the sitting member, of having had in durante a voter belonging to the opposition party, and preventing him from going to the poll. The abducted voter, William Constantine, was a stonemason, and he charged the accused men with having seized him as he was leaving his house and thrust him into a cab, where he was held down under circumstances of great cruelty. The examination and cross-examination were conducted at great length, and the case was adjourned to a future day.

SERIOUS CONFLAGRATIONS.—A mischievous fire broke out on Saturday morning in a cotton warehouse in Oldhall-street, Liverpool, occupied by Messrs. McLean, Maris, and Co. The accident occurred at a favourable time, and engines were soon on the spot, but the damage done, either by fire or water, will amount, it is believed, to three or four thousand pounds.—Fire was discovered on Friday night in the theatre at Birmingham while the performance was going on. The manager contrived to keep all knowledge of it from the audience, though it began not six yards from the boxes, and succeeded in extinguishing it before much mischief was done.—A fire took place on Saturday afternoon on the Maison Dieu farm, near Dover, resulting in the destruction of the greater portion of the premises, several large stacks of corn, &c., and a large barn being entirely demolished, and the dwelling-house partially so.

AFFECTING FUNERAL.—The bodies of Henry Larcombe and Sarah Seymour, two of the sufferers by the late fatal boat accident at Wactchet, were interred in the new cemetery at Bedminster on Sunday week. The deceased were both young people, and were to have been married to each other in a week or two. The funeral attracted great attention. The pall covering the coffin containing the body of Larcombe was borne by six young women, and that of Miss Seymour by six young men. It is computed that some 2000 or 3000 persons followed the procession to the cemetery, in which this was the first interment.

FIRE ON THE MANCHESTER AND CHESTER RAILWAY.—The *Manchester Guardian* publishes a letter from a passenger in the 12.55 afternoon train from Manchester to Chester on Saturday, to which an accident by fire occurred. The writer states that the train had just passed the Kenyon Junction when he perceived a strong smell of fire, and on looking out of the window he saw that the luggage on the carriage before him was all on fire. Calling out loudly, the writer alarmed those in the carriages behind, but the guard and driver in front could not hear. Fortunately a hat had been lost upon the line from one of the carriages of the express train, and the driver on the engine at this moment turned his head back along the train to see if his own train had crushed it. He saw the danger, and stopped the train before the roof of the carriage gave way. Some ladies in a state of terror were got out of the carriage. Several of them went into hysterics. Their luggage was destroyed, some tin boxes being completely melted. The writer of the letter says:—"I never saw such a scene in my life. If it had been an express train we should all have been burned to death, and nothing could have saved us." And to show in what danger the passengers were he adds—"I put my stick through the top of the carriage."

MURDER IN SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE.—The adjourned inquiry into this horrible case took place on Saturday. The poor woman who has not been positively identified is supposed to be the daughter of a Mr. Jacob Rolands, who formerly lived in Lipton. The coroner stated that the prisoners could not be present during the inquiry unless writ of habeas corpus was obtained, which would cost about £17. No new additional evidence was elicited except that it appeared that the woman was not dead when thrown into the canal. The jury returned a verdict of "Wilful Murder" against Joseph Allen, Thomas Watkins, E. Faraday, and Acton.

RESULTS OF INTOXICATION.—The Liverpool coroner has received reports of two cases which forcibly illustrate the evils of drinking to excess. In one William Roper, a ropemaker, 52 years of age, fell down dead when returning on Sunday from a public-house where he had been carousing; and the other, Mary Stevenson, the wife of a cotton-porter, when returning home drunk was so much abused by her husband, who was also intoxicated, that she died shortly after being lifted into bed.

A LONG HOLDING.—Among the obituary notices in the "Leeds Intelligencer" is the following:—"On the 20th inst., aged forty-five, Mr. Peter Matterson, of Low Dunsford, near Boroughbridge. He and his ancestry have been the owners and occupiers on the farm on which he died for more than 800 years. The farm was not entailed, and the owner has always been a Matterson, without adoption."

A BISHOP AND HIS FAMILY.

THE death of the Rev. George Thomas Pretyman, Chancellor of Lincoln Cathedral, and second son of the Rev. George Pretyman Tomline, who was instituted Bishop of Lincoln in 1787, and was afterwards translated to the richer bishopric of Winchester, has called attention to the good things which fell to the Bishop's family. The Rev. George, lately deceased, was, it seems, in 1814, presented by his father to the chancellorship with the attached perpetual curacy of Nettleham, the value being about £1800 yearly; the separate additional income of the Chancellor was £270. Mr. Pretyman was also Prebendary of Stoke-upon-Trent (the income being included in that pertaining to the office of Chancellor), with the patronage of the vicarage of Stoke, value £402 yearly, and the impropriatorship of the great tithes. He was also Prebendary of Biggleswade, value £44 per annum, with the patronage of the vicarage of Biggleswade, value £300 yearly, and the impropriatorship of the great tithes. In 1814 his father also presented him to the rectory of Wheathampstead, with the curacy of Harpenden, value £1356 yearly; and in 1817 his father further presented him with the rectory of Chalfont St. Giles, Bucks, value £615 yearly, and to the large income from these several sources was added, in 1825, £913 more as Canon or Prebendary in Winchester Cathedral. The deceased had two rectory residences and also "assigned houses" at Lincoln and Winchester. At each he resided three months in the year. The Bishop, as patron of the institution, conferred upon him the sinecure of Chaplain of St. Leonard's Hospital at Newark, the revenues being derived from 360 acres of land and forty houses. Three almspeople who dwelt in the hospital received £13 8s. yearly, with a coat, waistcoat, and a supply of coals; the surplus, which fell to the share of the Chaplain (who never resided, "one of the poor men being nominally the chaplain"), must, therefore, have been considerable. The Bishop died immensely rich, and the Chancellor was for years accounted the *Cœsus* of Lincoln.

The deceased Chancellor leaves behind him a brother not altogether unprovided for. The Rev. R. Pretyman is Precentor of Lincoln Cathedral. He has, besides, the prebend of Kilsby, the prebend of Langford Ecclesia; the rectory of Middleton Stoney, Oxfordshire; the rectory of Walgrave, Northamptonshire; and the rectory of Wroughton, Wiltshire. Of these three valuable preferments the Precentor made no return whatsoever, so that with respect to the precise incomes they yield we are in the dark. The Precentor is patron of the rectory of Kilsby, Northamptonshire, value £150, and impropriator of the great tithes; he is also patron of the five perpetual curacies in Lincoln of St. Margaret with St. Peter, in Eastgate (this alternately with the prebend of Heydor), St. Mark, St. Michael, St. Peter at Gowts, and St. Swithin's. The Chancellor shared, and the Precentor shared, with the rest of the Chapter of the cathedral, in the right of presentation to twenty-one vicarages, five rectories, and two perpetual curacies. The Precentor also held the office of Chaplain Warden of the Mere Hospital, which has been the subject of Chancery proceedings, and of which this story is told.—

"The Rev. F. Cumming, of Cardington, was Warden in 1812, and the tenant was a Mr. Manby. Seven years of the twenty-one years' lease had run out, and Mr. Manby sought a renewal. Mr. Cumming, an old man, asked a fine of £4412. This was deemed exorbitant, and the lease was suffered to run on, Mr. Manby, who was middle-aged, thinking that Mr. Cumming, who was old, must come to, as if he persisted in obstinacy he would get nothing. But in 1816 Mr. Manby was checkmated. The Bishop of Lincoln presented Mr. Cumming to a more valuable living than that of Cardington. Mr. Cumming resigned the wardenry of the Mere, and the Bishop collated his son the Precentor. The Precentor was a very young man, and Mr. Manby middle-aged. In 1817 Mr. Manby applied for a renewal, and the Rev. R. Pretyman, with a thorough appreciation of his position and his ability to dictate terms, declined to renew but offered to purchase Mr. Manby's interest. In 1819, after much negotiation, a renewal was effected, Major Colegrave, the successor of Mr. W. Manby, paying the Warden £952 4s. 1d. The property consisted of 874 acres of land, and the Warden took the whole rental, except £24 yearly, paid to six pensioners."

The Rev. J. R. Pretyman, another of the family, was, in 1811, presented by Bishop Tomline to the rectory of Sherrington, value £631, and to the rectory of Winwick, value £567. He was also Prebendary of Aylesbury in Lincoln Cathedral, value £75 yearly, with the presentation to the perpetual curacy of Asgarby, value £34, and the impropriation of the great tithes, and to the presentation to the vicarage of Aylesbury, value £30, with the proceeds of the land commuted for the great tithes. The Rev. J. R. Pretyman was also appointed, in 1815, Warden or Master of the Hospital of Spital-in-the-Street. The annual value of the endowment is about £1000 a year, and the payment yearly made by the Warden, prior to the new scheme settled by the Court of Chancery, was only £64.

DESTRUCTION OF A RAILWAY STATION BY FIRE.

THE South-Eastern station at Reading was a wooden structure, containing booking-office, first and second class waiting-rooms, superintendent's office, &c. Adjoining was a covered platform 100 feet in length, and from it all the trains were despatched for London. A lamp-room was erected at the extreme end of the platform, and in this place on Sunday morning a fire broke out. By half-past three o'clock the flames had spread along the covered platform and ignited the booking-office. A brisk wind prevailed at the time, and of course made the fire burn with increasing fury. It was found impossible to rescue any portion of the property from destruction. By four o'clock the station was one mass of flame, and pieces of burning wood flying about set fire to the thatch of a stable in a yard about twenty feet below the level of the railway. There were fifteen horses belonging to the company in this stable, and, as it was manifest that the building must be destroyed, attention was directed to effecting their rescue. With some difficulty they were all got out. By five o'clock the roof of the station fell in, followed by a stack of chimneys; and in less than half an hour afterwards the station was one mass of ruins. The telegraphic communication was stopped by the destruction of the instruments and the severing of the wires. The total loss of property is very considerable, as, in addition to the station being burnt down, a large quantity of luggage has been destroyed, with a stock of books belonging to Messrs. Smith, the news-vendor, valued at more than £200.

The large chest, containing books and money, was recovered from the ruins, but so injured that it could not be unlocked. The iron chest belonging to the South-Western Company, who used the same office, was also found. The gold and silver, though discoloured, were uninjured, but a number of Bank of England notes, placed in a leather bag, were destroyed. The intense heat had singed or dried up the bag, and nothing was left but a brass ring through which a string ran at the top.

RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE IN CALIFORNIA.—The Courts of California have decided that idol worship is not forbidden on the Pacific. The case is thus reported in one of the morning papers:—"The case was that of 'Eldridge v. the See Yip Company,' wherein the plaintiff attempted to get possession of the asylum erected by the Chinese Company. Among the plaintiff's averments was one that the trusteeship under which the company holds was void, because the building was erected for the purpose of being used partly for idol worship. The Supreme Court says:—'There is no force in the objection that it was created for the purpose of idol worship, is void. Under our Constitution all men are permitted the free exercise of their religious opinion, provided it does not involve the commission of a public offence; nor can any distinction be made in law between the Christian or Jew, Mahometan or Heathen. The Courts have no power to determine that this or that form of religious or superstitious worship, unaccompanied by acts prohibited by law, is against public policy or morals.'"

LAW AND CRIME.

It is now some months since that publicity was given to the facts of the imprisonment in a lunatic asylum of a Mr. Ruck, a gentleman of fortune. Attention has been again directed to the case through the medium of the trial, in the Exchequer, of an action brought by Mr. Ruck against Dr. Stilwell, the keeper of the lunatic asylum, and other persons, for false imprisonment. The plaintiff's declaration was to the effect that he had been seized by defendants and compelled to go to Moorcroft House, where he was kept for ten months amongst lunatics, and that he was put to considerable trouble and expense to obtain his liberation. Further, that, whilst there, he recovered, and that defendants thereupon failed to give the requisite notice thereof to plaintiff's wife (who had signed the request for plaintiff's incarceration), or to the Lunacy Commissioners. The pleas of the defendants denied the charges set forth by plaintiff, and further pleaded the statute for the regulation of the care and treatment of lunatics. The evidence showed that plaintiff was about forty-five years of age, and had a family of six children. In 1857 plaintiff was visited by a domestic affliction, for his solace under which he took to drinking to an extent that brought on delirium tremens. While suffering from the delusions consequent upon this malady he was attended by Dr. Harrison, and was prescribed for by him. While under this gentleman's treatment plaintiff discontinued the use of stimulants. A Dr. Barnet was called in by plaintiff's wife without his consent. Plaintiff was invited by Dr. Barnet to dine with him at Reading, and accepted the invitation. After dinner Dr. Barnet pressed plaintiff to take some wine, but plaintiff found it unpalatable, and, suspecting that it had been drugged, left the house and proceeded to the railway station, in order to return home. Dr. Barnet pursued him, seized him by the collar, and they had a scuffle. A crowd assembled, and plaintiff was at length induced by the police to return to the doctor's, where the wine was again produced, and this time found to be good. While at Reading, where plaintiff remained three days, he was visited by Dr. Conolly, and was afterwards persuaded by Dr. Barnet to visit "a particular old friend" who resided near Uxbridge. Thither plaintiff went, and found the residence to be Moorcroft House, and the "old friend" Dr. Stilwell. Once within its walls he found himself a prisoner. During the ten months which preceded his release he received no medical treatment, was assiduously watched by the doctor and his myrmidons, and was not allowed even to post a letter, although he was allowed to walk and ride in company with the doctor or keeper. At length he sent a communication, surreptitiously, by one of the attendants to a solicitor. The doctor discovered this fact, and dismissed a man whom he suspected had been accessory to the posting of the letter. Dr. Conolly visited the house once a week, once a fortnight, or oftener. One of the attendants at the asylum swore that a month after plaintiff's admission he (witness) was told by Dr. Stilwell, and by Dr. Weiller, "superintendent" of the house, that they could see nothing the matter with Mr. Ruck, and that he would soon be set at liberty. It further appeared that after plaintiff had communicated with a legal friend a solicitor on his behalf attended at the asylum, accompanied by a physician, Dr. Seymour. Dr. Seymour examined plaintiff, and stated that it was not a case for a lunatic asylum, and that had plaintiff been kept quiet he would soon have recovered. Finally, measures were taken for a commission as to plaintiff's insanity, and upon this he was pronounced sane. Those proceedings cost him eleven hundred pounds. The books of the asylum, which defendants were compelled to produce, showed that Dr. Conolly, who it may be remembered signed the certificate for plaintiff's confinement, had received for his attendances £15, and that Dr. Conolly had received quarterly sums for attendance generally upon the patients. This fact, which it will be remembered was shown only by defendants' own books told most materially upon the case. For by the Act of Parliament, 8 and 9 Vic., cap. 100, not only is it enacted that no physician, surgeon, or apothecary, who is a regular professional attendant in a licensed house, or hospital, shall sign any certificate for the reception of a patient into such house or hospital, but the contravening this provision is declared to be a misdemeanour. Although Dr. Conolly was not upon his defence in this matter, and therefore, as against him no one can have a right to impinge an infraction of the statute, still, as against Dr. Stilwell and his confederates, this point was urged with effect. Dr. Conolly's interest in the asylum once proved, plaintiff's detention became illegal *ab initio*. Such is the frightful state of our lunatic laws that, had another physician signed the certificate, plaintiff would have had to fight his case almost without a chance of success. But, as the jury found that Dr. Conolly was a regular professional attendant at the asylum, the plaintiff has been awarded £500 damages. To comment upon the state of law which this trial discloses would be clearly superfluous. It speaks for itself.

Mr. Hawkins, Q.C., whose forensic line is eminently the facetious, encountered last week a worthy antagonist in the person of one Mr. "Jim" Myers, a circus clown. In a trial brought by the official assignee of a bankrupt manager of a travelling equestrian show against Mr. Batty, late of Astley's, for the recovery of some property assigned to the defendant before plaintiff's bankruptcy, Mr. Myers was called as a witness. The cross-examination by Mr. Hawkins turned on the value of a well-known trick mare, named "Beda." Mr. Hawkins asked, "Could any one show off the mare's performances without knowing her tricks? Could I do it, for instance?" "I should say you are not the figure for it," returned the witness. "Then," continued the counsel, "you would have to look out for a figure to suit the mare?" Witness rejoined, "We should not think of putting a man with a hump back, or his head turned a little one side, his eyes not properly fixed, or with too large a nose, on such a horse." This piece of humour was rewarded with such a burst of merriment that the learned gentleman, after eliciting that the "comic line" was also that by which Mr. Myers earned his livelihood, and that his experience had been great in "chaffing" in the ring, mildly remarked, "I thought so," and closed the cross-examination.

Two members of the notorious "Bennett gang" of quack impostors have been committed for trial on a charge of conspiring to defraud. One of these was charged under the name of John Michell Watters, alias "Dr. Watters," a denomination which, it may be remembered from the report of the case of the

Bennetts, seems to have been considered a kind of common property among the gang, when practising at the so-called Eye and Ear Infirmary in Spring Gardens. After the disclosures in that case the "doctor" removed to Mount Gardens, Westminster Road, where he boldly assumed the name and style of Dr. Locock, to defraud the ignorant into the belief that her Majesty's accoucheur had set up in Lambeth. The other prisoner was one Edwards, the fellow who in the Bennett case gave evidence of the disgusting components of the sham medicines supplied by the fraternity. A gentleman named Woolrich testified that the prisoners had charged him £2 5s. 6d. for some tincture, which only made him worse; and that on again attending at the "infirmary" he was directed to pay £2 10s. more for a tin apparatus about five inches high, called a vapour bath, the use of which brought on excruciating pain, and made him ill as to compel him to keep his bed for some days. A surgeon proved one of the ingredients of the medicine to be acetate, commonly called sugar, of lead; and that the use of it as directed might have produced highly dangerous and possibly fatal effects.

On Monday last Lord Chief Justice Cockburn proceeded to try the indictment against Thomas Robert Marshall, Edward Mortimer, and Septimus Eicke, for sale of a commission in the army. Mortimer and Eicke pleaded guilty. It appeared that an office had been opened in Pall-mall in the name of "Armstrong and Co." There does not appear to have been any ingredient of Armstrong therein, and that mythical personage, when circumstances rendered the appearance of the head of the firm desirable, was admirably represented by either of the prisoners Mortimer or Eicke. Now, a Mr. Cunningham fostered military views somewhat obstructed by the facts that he had only one eye, was incompetent to pass an examination, and had survived the age which by military rule forms the barrier to entry into Her Majesty's service. The enterprising army tailor, Marshall, was not discouraged by these obstacles, but promised to surmount them, in consideration of £400, to be paid into a bank to the credit of certain parties to be named after Mr. Cunningham was gazetted. This result was accomplished after a fortnight's "coaching" by an adept tutor. The way in which the matter was managed appears to have been as follows:—One Colonel Steinbach has high influence at the Horse Guards, and during his military career has known three Colonels named Cunningham. He also knew the firm of "Armstrong and Co.," from which he entertained expectations of a foreign agency. Marshall set "Armstrong and Co." to secure the aid of Colonel Steinbach. Colonel Steinbach, taking for granted that the applicant must be the son of one of his trio of friends of the same name, in the most generous manner appealed to the Commander-in-Chief in favour of the aspiring Cunningham; the Commander-in-Chief saw the importance of securing Mr. Cunningham to the British Army, and so it ended, until a shabby accomplice, in gaol for debt, revenged the nonpayment of his share by giving information to the authorities. Colonel Steinbach of course received nothing for his intervention, but three weeks before Mr. Cunningham's appointment was paid £25 by Eicke on account of the agency. But the rule as to age? H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, K.C.B., Commander-in-Chief of the British Forces, informs the inquiring public "You must relax the rule to keep the army efficient," which translated into the civilian tongue means:—There is a rule in the army which if carried out would render the army inefficient. Therefore instead of amending or abrogating the rule we allow it to remain, violating it when we think fit! The defendants on the indictment were found guilty, but sentence was deferred for the consideration of the full Court of Judges.

POLICE.

WEAK-ANKLED HONESTY.—Thomas Creece, a respectably-dressed young fellow, was charged with pocket-picking. A policeman in plain clothes on Sunday night saw him follow and try the pockets of several gentlemen, but without being able to perceive whether he got anything or not. At last he drew out a pocket-handkerchief, and the officer, after stopping the gentleman, followed and took the prisoner into custody. The prisoner had then a handkerchief in his hand; but by his loud asseverations of innocence he collected a crowd round him, and managed, during the confusion, to pass that handkerchief to an accomplice. Upon being conveyed to the station, however, he was searched, and two nearly new handkerchiefs were found wrapped round one of his ankles inside his trousers, and one round the other. He was very violent on his way to the station, and witness had some difficulty in getting him there.

The prisoner said the officer's tale was all lies. He had never followed no gentlemen, and he hadn't stolen no handkerchers. He was only walking up and down Bishopsgate-street for air and exercise, when the officer went up and took him in custody.

Alderman Carter—But what about those three handkerchiefs found on you?

Prisoner—Vy, my Lord, I's got weak ankles; and, besides, I'd just bought them handkerchers of a man as I knowed, and he told me to put 'em round my legs, cos then no one couldn't steal 'em. I assure you I'm a honest feller.

Evidence was given to show that he had been in custody several times before, and the Alderman sent him to hard labour for three months.

LOAN SOCIETIES AND THE PUBLIC—(CITY SHERIFFS' COURT).—Several cases came before the Court, and his Honour again dissected the system, and refused to commit the defendants. In one case the plaintiff rudely asked the Judge if "that was justice."

His Honour (quietly)—If you repeat that observation I will give you another specimen.

In other cases his Honour explained to the plaintiff that he was charging 170 per cent. In answer to inquiry, plaintiff said he had about £5000 out in bills of this kind.

His Honour—Then you make about £13,350 out of it in the course of the year?

Plaintiff—Oh, no; your Honour is mistaken. If it were so I should soon be Lord Mayor.

His Honour—Well, I have my doubts about you being Lord Mayor.

Plaintiff said he was bound to wait for twenty weeks for his money, although he had a bill payable in twenty-one days. Thus the interest was not as described by his Honour. Plaintiff was a very good-hearted man. He was a philanthropist.

His Honour—You know that you can sue at the expiration of twenty-one days, and if you do not it arises out of your philanthropical feeling. But I tell you that, at this rate, you are better off than the Lord Chancellor. His Honour then explained that he should not allow any costs in the judgments, the interest charged amply covering the expenses.

SHOCKING CASE OF WIFE-BEATING.—Edward Hoare, a labourer man, was charged before Mr. Paynter with a brutal attack upon his wife.

Ann Hoare, the complainant, appeared to be in a very weak state, and, although her features were so beaten about as to be hardly distinguishable, she expressed her intention of not prosecuting; but, on the magistrate saying that the case was so serious a one as to warrant him in sending it for trial without her testimony, she stated, with manifest reluctance, that her husband struck her on the forehead, at about three on Monday afternoon, with a chair, in Victoria Mews, Wilton-road, Knightsbridge, being drunk at the time, and not intending to hurt her.

The evidence of John Fener, 255 A, made the assault of a much more serious nature, and showed that the complainant, in her desire to screen her husband, had suppressed some important facts. The constable said that, being informed murder would be committed by a husband upon his wife unless he immediately hastened to Victoria Mews, he went there, and found the blood streaming from complainant's face and head so fast that he immediately took her in a cab to St. George's Hospital, as he feared she would bleed to death, having lost, as he thought, nearly a gallon of blood. She had two black eyes and severe wounds on the face and head; and, in reply to his questions, said, in her husband's presence, that he had blackened her eye and made her nose bleed in the room in which they lived, and that he then followed her down into the mews and struck her a desperate blow across the head with a chair. He admitted the second assault.

Witness added he was informed by the house-surgeon that the complainant would not stop in the hospital, but left soon after her admission.

Mr. Paynter said the case was a very serious one, and might become more so. He should remand the accused for a week, without bail, and would see how the poor woman was then. He should probably send the case to the sessions.

PERSONATING THE POLICE.—John Runwick, twenty-seven, described as a traveller, residing at South-place, Hackney, was charged with obtaining, by false pretences, a great-coat, and 2s. 3d.

Mrs. Roberts, a householder in Mile-end, has some very choice poultry, and on the 19th of May last several of the birds were stolen. She complained to the police, and on the following day the prisoner called upon her, observing, "You have lost some fowls. I am Constable Deeble, of the H division, a detective you may see, for I am in plain clothes. Now, I know where they are." "If you can get them back," observed Mrs. Roberts, "I will make you a present." The offer was accepted, and prisoner left, but returned at tea-time, saying he should have to watch the premises all night, as his inspector, Mr. Armstrong, wished him to take the thief who had robbed her, and it was well known at the station that more of her chickens would be sought for. Mrs. Roberts, alarmed, begged her visitor to stay to tea, and, after some demur, he complied, devoured four ducks' eggs, crossed his legs, and made some mysterious revelations about the "Force." The police, and especially the H division, were a bad lot, and Mr. Hammill had begun to find them out. Suddenly he jumped up; remembered that his fellow-officer, "Donaway," was waiting for him in the wet; descended to borrow a trifle to treat him, his own purse being at the station; and, observing that he had other important matters to look after, walked away. Subsequently he called at a late hour, when it was raining; appeared very indignant, and complained of being unable to get his uniform great-coat, and then asked for the loan of one belonging to Mr. Roberts. He was allowed his choice, took the best, and again left, with this time a strong injunction that the street door should be left upon the "jar" all night. This, fortunately, Mrs. R., in the absence of her husband, did not comply with. No more fowls were stolen, nor any returned. Mr. Deeble had even forgotten his little obligations; and the lady, after the lapse of a few days, went to the station, saw the veritable Mr. Deeble, and the "sham" was then exploded. The prisoner, when apprehended one month afterwards, excused himself on the plea of being in liquor.

Committed for trial.

A MEAN THIEF, BUT A RESPECTABLE MAN.—James Lake, a greengrocer in business in the Queen's-road, Chelsea, was charged with stealing a knife and fork from Lake's dining-rooms, Cheapside, under the following circumstances:

Charles Pinn said he was a waiter at Lake's dining-rooms in Cheapside, and on Saturday last, about half-past twelve o'clock, he missed a knife and fork from the prisoner's table, who was dining there. Witness accused him of the theft, and found the articles in his coat pocket. Witness also ascertained that, in paying for his dinner, the prisoner had withheld fivepence for refreshments which he had had.

The proprietor of the dining-rooms said—As many as two thousand persons a day dined at his two houses, and he was a great victim to this system of petty depredation. It was left to the honour of the customer to enumerate the refreshments he had had, and that confidence was frequently violated by a class of unprincipled persons, whom they were finding out in such frauds every week, and almost day by day.

A policeman said he had made inquiries about the prisoner, and found that he was in a respectable way of business, at the address he gave, and that he bore a very good character in his neighbourhood.

The waiter said the prisoner had been several times at the rooms, and, although knives and forks in great numbers had been missed, he could not say the prisoner had taken any before.

The prisoner's landlord gave the prisoner an excellent character, and said when he let him his premises he had the highest references.

Sir J. Duke said it appeared the prisoner was a respectable man, and it was therefore the more necessary to make an example, in order that others might be deterred from following the same course.

The prisoner said he could only account for it by stating that it arose from absence of mind, as he knew not what he was doing when he put the knife and fork in his pocket.

Mr. Hills said there could not have been much absence of mind in taking the knife and fork, as he had also defrauded the cashier out of 5d., and then offered the waiter 10s. to compromise the affair of the knife and fork.

Sir James Duke said—if a man in rags had committed such an offence he should not have been surprised; but when, as in this case, the person charged was a respectable tradesman, with plenty of money, and was found committing a double fraud upon the prosecutor, he considered it his duty to impose a severe penalty, which was that the prisoner should go to prison for one month with hard labour.

A SPORTING MAN.—William Jones, aged twenty-seven, lately assistant to Mr. Charles Edwards, draper, of Southampton-row, Russell-square, was charged with robbing his employer of twelve cambric handkerchiefs, and a number of other articles, of the value of £10.

It appeared that the prisoner was suspected of the robbery; consequently his boxes were searched by the police, and the above property was found in them. When searched at the station-house, a number of betting-cards, with books and letters relating to horse-racing, were discovered upon him; and it was stated that he had lately been a loser to some amount.

The prisoner said he was guilty, and he had no excuse to offer.

Mr. Corrie said he had been guilty of a very great crime in robbing his employer. He had, no doubt, been led to commit this crime by betting, and he had taken the property to pay his debts. He should commit him to the House of Correction for six months with hard labour.

FATAL OMNIBUS ACCIDENT.—Mr. Rolt Sheppard, of Threadneedle-street, and some other gentlemen carrying on business there, waited upon the Lord Mayor to ask whether something could not be done to control the speed of omnibuses passing through that street. They said that a few minutes before a poor little boy, of respectable appearance, had been run over and had his brains dashed out by an omnibus. The street, as his Lordship knew, was a very narrow one, and, as the omnibuses overhung the pavement, it was matter of difficulty for people to get out of the way, and of wonder that such accidents were not of frequent occurrence. They did not say that any blame attached to the driver in the present instance, but the omnibuses travelled at such a speed that they felt their lives were constantly in danger, and wished to ascertain from his Lordship whether anything could be done to prevent the recurrence of such accidents in future.

The Lord Mayor expressed his regret at the accident that had just occurred, and said he had powers, of course, to deal with all cases of furious driving if the parties were brought before him, and he would direct the attention of the City Commissioner of Police to the subject, and request him to give special orders to his men to take out a summons in every case of furious driving which came within their notice.

Mr. Sheppard and his friends then thanked his Lordship and withdrew.

CHARGE OF ARSON AND ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.—Ann Bryant, servant to Mrs. Neve, No. 4, Alred-place, Camberwell New-road, was placed at the bar before Mr. Elliott, charged on suspicion with setting fire to a house, and destroying a bed and other articles of property, belonging to Miss Hubbard, and also with attempting to commit suicide by throwing herself out of the first-floor window.

Mrs. Neve deposed that she was a milliner, in Newington-causeway, and also occupied apartments at 4, Alred-place, Camberwell New-road. The prisoner was in her service. On her return last night she found that there had been a fire at the house, and that the prisoner had narrowly escaped from destruction. Witness found that the house had been on fire in different places at the same time. She strongly suspected the prisoner with having caused it, and her conduct on the following morning so strengthened these suspicions that she gave her into custody.

Mr. Dewine deposed that he was on a visit at the house of his relative, Miss Hubbard, with whom Mrs. Neve lodged, and that on the night before, about eleven o'clock, when going to bed he saw a bonnet-box, which was on the shelf with others, on fire, and without giving any alarm he procured some water and extinguished it. He then went into his bedroom, where he found the bed on fire, and the room filled with smoke to suffocation. He, in consequence, called out for water, and, having thrown a quantity over the bed, had the latter removed into the garden.

Mr. Elliott—Had the bed been much burnt?

Witness—Very much, as well as the bed clothes. The toilet of the dressing-table was also very much burnt, though it was some distance from the bed; and a chest of drawers also, separated from both the bed and dressing-table, was very much scorched and injured. The witness further said, that had he not gone up stairs at the opportune moment he had the house must in a very short time indeed have been in flames. In conclusion, the witness said that on that morning, about six o'clock, he was alarmed by the cries of the prisoner, who had jumped from a window fifteen feet high, and who had no doubt hurt herself a good deal, but broke no bones.

A police constable said that on that morning he was sent for to take the prisoner into custody; and, on examining the house, it was perfectly clear to him that the fire was not accidental. The prisoner admitted to him that she had been up stairs on the night before without a light; but on getting there she struck a match and got a light. She further said she was tired of her life, and that was the reason she threw herself out of the window.

The prisoner, who appeared rather a simple-looking girl, but full grown for her age, seemed to treat the matter with apparent indifference; and having received the usual caution, and being asked if she wished to say anything to the charge, replied that she knew nothing about the cause of the fire.

Remanded for a week.

A NEST OF THIEVES.—A wiry-framed young fellow, giving the name of James Ware, was charged before Mr. Hammill with the commission of three separate robberies from the person. The prisoner had been previously remanded upon the following evidence:

Robert Scarlett—I was yesterday afternoon walking with my mother along the Old-street-road, when a man in company with the prisoner snatched my watch from my pocket, and ran off. I was following, but the prisoner tripped me up, and then darted away in another direction. I pursued, and ultimately saw him dragged from beneath a quantity of straw in a stable-yard near the City-road.

Williams Cooper, waiter at the Eagle Tavern, and Robertson, 179 G, both spoke to the capture of the prisoner, in terms showing that he had unwarily, by entering the yard in question, run into a cul de sac.

No defence was offered; and the police in court asserted that numerous other charges could be adduced against the accused on a future occasion. This announcement now appeared correct, for Mr. Edward Myers, of Whitechapel, and Mr. Miller, a traveller, swore—the first that on the 21st of May he was robbed of a valuable gold watch and chain by the prisoner, under most daring circumstances, while passing through Commercial-street, Whitechapel; and the other that the prisoner snatched his watch near the same spot on the 15th ult., rapidly passing with it into a court. This prosecutor declared that he followed the thief, but dearly paid for his temerity, having been knocked down and beaten about the legs with a poker.

One of the H division, said he well knew the prisoner was a most determined and desperate thief, who hitherto had avoided capture from his exceeding speed of foot; frequently had his stand on the opposite side of the road, and, with his finger to his nose, invited the constables to cross and take him; if, however, they moved a step in advance, he was off like a deer.

Mr. Hammill made several inquiries into the particular situation of these robberies, so frequent that they appeared to feed the police-sheets. Upon this it appeared that the intersecting streets were let out in lodging-houses, duly certified, according to the Act, but yet abounding with notorious characters, to cope with whom the police on or about the spot were numerically insufficient.

The magistrate expressed himself very strongly upon the frequency of this class of offences in the district, observing that there was manifestly a nest of thieves in the spot in question, and if they were a battalion they should be met by a commensurate force.

Prisoner treated the whole of the evidence in the most flippant manner, laughing aloud at those parts which spoke of his activity and daring. He was remanded for evidence of two other cases precisely similar to those given against him.

ANOTHER POISONING CASE.—A verdict of "wilful murder" has been returned against George Royal, charged with the murder of Zeporah Wright, who died by poison a few weeks after her confinement. She had been living with Royal, who is a married man.

EXTENSIVE ROBBERY.—Stephen Gower and George Prestige, late in the employ of Mr. James Thomas Taylor, ship biscuit-baker, of No. 124, Cock-hill, Ratcliff; and Robert Groom and Henry Bradley, labourers, were brought up on remand—the two first charged with stealing five tons of a meal called "middlings," for the manufacture of ship biscuits, and the others with feloniously receiving the property, they well knowing it to be stolen.

After a lengthened investigation both prisoners were committed for trial.

PLEASURES OF A POLICE CELL.—John James, a powerful man, described as a hawker, was charged before Mr. D'Eyncourt with two assaults.

Frederick Tyler, a shoemaker in Hoxton, whose face was covered with blood and one eye sadly contused, gave his evidence sitting, and deposed that he was on the previous night locked up in one of the cells at Robert-street station-house for being intoxicated, and that he was suddenly set upon by the defendant some hours afterwards, and kicked and beaten most cruelly. He believed that the motive for the outrage was robbery.

Inspector Webster, N division, stated that the defendant was locked up for assaulting another person between twelve and one o'clock. Shortly afterwards he was found kicking the complainant, who lay on the floor of the cell in a most pitiable condition.

Gill, 299 N, said he heard a disturbance outside a coffee-house in Shoreditch after twelve the night previous, and saw defendant strike a person twice in the face heavily. On taking him into custody, a number of the worst characters endeavoured to rescue him, and pinioned his arms. At length he succeeded in springing his rattle, and six policemen succeeded in getting the assailant to the station.

George King, a carman, preferred the second charge, and exhibited great marks of violence on his head.

Sergeant Brannan, N division, said the defendant's right name was Bryant: he was a desperate thief.

The defendant was fined £5, or two months' imprisonment, for the first, and 50s., or one month, for the second, assault.

MONEY OPERATIONS OF THE WEEK.

ALTHOUGH the dealings in Home Stocks, this week, both for Money and Time, have not increased, prices, owing to the success of the Bank in Lombardy, and the continued influx of the precious metals, added to the abundance of money for commercial purposes, have had an upward tendency. Altogether the market may be considered in a healthy state, notwithstanding that the public have purchased very little stock in a comparative sense. Consols, for Account, have been done at 92½; the Reduced, 93½; the New 3 per Cents, 93 to 93½. Exchequer Bills have risen 2s. to 2s. 2d. prem.; and Indian Bonds have sold at 10s. and 5s. discount. Bank Stock has marked 200, 219, and 221. India Debentures have had a dull market, at 94 to 94½.

The Directors of the Bank of England have made no change in their minimum rate of discount. In Lombard-street the demand for accommodation has been rather lessened, and the lowest quotation for three days paper is now 21, 1 per cent. The supply of good bills is a fair average one, considering that our export trade has received a check from the operations in Italy.

Since we last wrote, the imports of bullion have been on a liberal scale. About £50,000 has been sold to the Bank of England; but the remainder, about £40,000, has been taken for export to the Continent.

Very little change has taken place in the value of Foreign Securities; but the market, generally, may be called steady. Turkish 6s. per Cent. have marked 74 to 76; Brazilian 4s per Cents, 91½; Mexican 3 per Cents, 18; Peruvian 4s per Cents, 81; Russian 5 per Cents, 103; ditto, 4s per Cents, 95; Sardinian 5 per Cents, 81; Spanish Debenture, 20½; Turkish 4 per Cents, 103½; and Belgian 4s per Cents, 93.

The dealing in Joint Stock Bank Shares has been rather limited. London and County have realised 29½; London Joint Stock, 22½; Oriental, 30½; and Union of Australia, 51.

Miscellaneous securities have been in improved request. Australian Agricultural has sold at 29½; Canada Land, 100; Crystal Palace, 18; and Royal Mail Steam, 52. St. Katherine Dock shares have been 87.

The Railway Share Market has been somewhat buoyant, and prices, generally, have been well supported. The traffic receipts continue good, and the account has passed off extremely well. The total "calls" for the present month are £3,149,345, making a total called for this year £7,595,171.

METROPOLITAN MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—The arrivals of English wheat up to our market, this week, coastwise and by land carriage, have been rather limited, and the demand for most kinds has ruled steady, at an advance in the quotations of 1s. per quarter. There has been rather a better feeling in the inquiry for foreign wheat, at previous currencies. Grinding barley has supported previous rates; but malting and distilling sorts have commanded very little attention. The transactions in malt have been trifling, at late quotations. Oats have ruled the turn dearer, owing to limited supplies. In beans and peas very little has been passing, at barely previous currencies. Flours have sold slowly, yet prices may be called firm.

ENGLISH CURRENCY.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, Red, 4s. to 4s. ditto, White, 4s. to 5s.; Norfolk and Lincoln, 4s. to 4s. ditto, 3s. to 4s.; Grindings, Barley, 2s. to 2s.; Distilling, 2s. to 2s.; Malt, 3s. to 4s.; Malt, 5s. to 6s.; Feed Oats, 2s. to 3s.; Potash, 2s. to 3s.; Tick Beans, 4s. to 4s.; Gray Peas, 4s. to 4s.; Maple, 4s. to 4s.; Rollers, 4s. to 5s. per quarter. Town-made Flour, 4s. to 4s.; Town households, 3s. to 3s.; Country Marks, 3s. to 3s. per 280 lbs.

CATTLE.—Very large supplies of most kinds of fat stock have been on offer this week, and the trade generally has ruled heavy, at depressed currencies. Beef, from 3s. to 4s. 6d.; mutton, 3s. 2d. to 4s. 10d.; lamb, 4s. 8d. to 5s.; veal, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.; pork, 3s. to 4s. 2d. per side, to sink the offal.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL.—These markets are scantly supplied, yet the trade is heavy, as follows:—Beef from 2s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.; mutton, 3s. 2d. to 4s. 6d.; veal, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 10d.; pork, 3s. 6d. to 4s. per cwt., to 8 lb. by the carcass.

TAXES.—For nearly all kinds the demand rules somewhat heavy, and late rates are barely supported.

STARS.—Good and fine raw sugars have changed hands steadily, at full prices; but inferior qualities have moved off slowly, at fully 6d. per cwt. less money. Barbadoes has sold at 3s. 6d. to 4s. Mauritius, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d.; and native Madras, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. per cwt. Refined sugars are steady, at 5s. 6d. to 5s. 12d. for brown lumps.

COFFEE.—Colouring samples have found buyers at fully last week's quotations. Most other coffees have commanded very little attention.

RAPESEED.—The amount of business doing in this article is only moderate. Prices, however, are well supported.

PAVONIAN.—We have to report much less activity in the demand for all kinds of butter, and prices have given way to 2s. per cwt. Bacon moves off freely, at an improvement in value of per cwt. Hams are steady. In other provisions very little is doing.

COTTON.—Sales have progressed slowly, but we have no change to notice in the quotations.

HEMP AND FLAX.—Baltic hemp is mostly selling at full quotations; but Manilla parcels are dull and drooping. Flax is heavy, at late currencies.

WOOL.—There is steady demand for most kinds of English wool, at full prices. Foreign and Colonial parcels move off slowly, at the late decline.

MARSHALLS.—The demand for speckled is still very inactive, yet 2d. has been paid on the spot. There is only a limited sale for all kinds of iron, on former terms. Tin is heavy, at 12s. for Straits, and 13s. to 13s. for Borneo. Lead is quite as dear as last week, and Australian copper is worth £10 per ton.

SPRITS.—Rum is in fair request, at last week's currency. Proof Leewards, 2s. 2d. to 2s. 3d.; proof East India, 2s. to 2s. 1d. per gallon. Brandy moves off slowly, and parcels are lower to purchase. Grain spirits are dull, on former terms.

OILS.—We have to report a fair demand for linseed oil, at 28s. 9d. to 29s. per cwt. on the spot. Olive (Galipoli) is quoted at £47 to £47 10s. Rape in request, at 37s, and 42s. for foreign refined. Coco-nut sells at 40s. to 4s.; and fine palm, 48s. 6d. to 47s. per cwt.

TEA.—There is a steady demand in the market, and P. Y. C. on the spot is worth 5s. 9d. per cwt. Sales have been made for the last three months at 5s. 9d. The stock is now 12,365 casks, against 14,455 ditto in 1858; 15,337 in 1857; and 17,839 in 1856. Rough fat, 2s. 11d. per lb.

COALS.—Hutton, 1s. 9d.; Wyham, 1s. 6d.; Holywell, 1s. 6d.; Gosforth, 1s. 3d.; Tanfield Moor, 1s. 6d.; Hutes, 1s. 6d.; South Hartlepool, 1s. 3d.; Riddell, 1s. 3d.; Hartley, 1s. 3d.; Eden Main, 1s. 6d. per ton.

LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JUNE 24.

BANKRUPTCS.—G. SWEDLEY, now Sieford, Lincolnshire, glass and china dealer.—S. TREADER, Fenchurch-street, licensed victualler.—J. CLARKE, King's Lynn, victualler.—J. ELLIOTT, Sloane, draper.—M. J. PAYNE, Exmouth coal dealer.—J. HOLDWORTH, verhampshire, timber merchant.—G. WOOD, Rayleigh, Essex, builder.—E. PETERS, Histon, wine and spirit merchant.—R. DAVIES, Morden, Drapier.—T. COOPER, Newmarket, Cornhill, upholsterer, turner.—J. ALLEN, Stockton upon Tees, cattle dealer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—T. DORIN, Glasgow, warehouseman.—A. BELL, Hamilton, Lanarkshire, dealer in cloth.—J. TAYLOR, Edinburgh, builder.

TUESDAY, JUNE 28.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—M. FOSTER, Bradford, Yorkshire, bill broker.

BANKRUPTCS.—B. B. BARTRAM, Banbury, Oxfordshire, coal merchant.—W. PHILLIPS, Norwich, leathercutter.—B. MARKS and E. S. FRANKLIN, Birmingham, cloth cap manufacturers.—J. ASTON, Birmingham, maltster.—T. SWIFT, Sheffield, grocer.—F. CLEUBY, Kingston-upon-Hull, draper.—J. WOODBRIDGE, Lincoln, fellmonger.—E. C. BRADY, Ludlow, Lincolnshire, grocer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—G. ACTING, Glasgow, dressing-case manufacturer.—A. RAMSAY, Leslie, surgeon.—A. MARSH and D. G. BEATTIE, Edinburgh, booksellers.—H. MACKAY, Edinburgh, grocer.—R. FRAITER, North Queensbury, baker.—J. CONACHER, Edinburgh, auctioneer.—W. GARROW, Lossiemouth, Elgin, steam-boast agent.

TUESDAY, JUNE 28.

ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

FRIDAY, JUNE 24.

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